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Three Lectures by Sir A. C. Mackenzie, Mus. D., will be given in the Duke's Hall on Wednesdays, February 10, 17 and 24, at 3.30. Admission

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The HALF TERM will commence on Thursday, February 18. The EXAMINATION for ASSOCIATESHIP (A.R.C.M.) will commence on April 19, 1915.

Monday, March 1.

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The Musical Times

AND SINGING-CLASS CIRCULAR. FEBRUARY 1, 1915.

The article in our January issue giving 'Some reflections of a native composer' has attracted much attention. We give below comments made by writers fully competent to discuss the questions raised by our contributor. For our part we think that on the whole critics deal very sympathetically with British music, and they are as glad as are the public and the publishers when the man arrives.]

SOME REFLECTIONS OF AN ENGLISH MUSICAL CRITIC.

By F. GILBERT WEBB.

The recent and present attention drawn to the position and condition of British musicians, and particularly to the lot of British composers, surely

augurs well for their immediate future. The Musical Times, ever reflective since its foundation in 1844 of the phases of the passing hour, has had several articles of late on the subject. Ernest Newman, in an open letter to composers, has given sage advice with fatherly solicitude, and last month Mr. Frederick Corder pleaded the cause of the teacher, while an anonymous writer gave us 'Some reflections of a native composer.' These and other articles are evidently written with the best of intentions; but through them all runs a vein of pessimism which especially in the last-named effusion is calculated to reduce young composers to despair. Not only is it maintained that the British public has shown callous indifference to native music, that its performance spells ruin, and compatriot critics treat it with insolent contempt, but the conceptions of our writers are all wrong and their works 'are ignoble and servile imitations of the methods of our foreign competitors'! The intention of the reflective accuser may be excellent, but one instinctively thinks of the

Perhaps it was right to dissemble your love, But—why did you kick me downstairs?

Nothing is more dangerous to truth than the endeavour to prove a case, and few social influences are more destructive than accusations containing half-truths. The present moment is so full of opportunities for our art that it is most necessary to arrest the circulation of statements conducive to false impressions. Above all is it most undesirable to depress our creative musicians by exaggerating the mistakes they have made and the wrongs they have suffered in the past. That past will soon be very far away. Whatever course the War may take, we stand on the eve of a new era of social life. Already the observer can see subtle changes in our midst which must inevitably develop.

It is not a time for looking back, but for careful watchfulness of the present and anticipation of the future. Music is, and always has been, the reflection of the general outlook, mode of living, and paramount emotionalism of its period, and to

the student of men the revolutionary nature of many recent compositions was but the harbinger of what has now come, and is coming, upon us.

Now this future will be a sorry one for our musicians if 'the reflections of a native composer' are true. It is evident, however, that his mirror is of the distorting kind which confuses rather than clears the minds of those who look into it. First with regard to the attitude of the British public. It is true that the London Symphony Orchestra in its season of 1913-14 eschewed British works, but in the present season the ban has been removed; and no one who has attended the Promenade Concerts given by the Queen's Hall Orchestra can say that works by British composers are not attentively listened to, and their merits acknowledged to the full, by the audience. Moreover, works which prove successful are repeated in the succeeding season. The history of classic music contains nothing to compare with the interest excited by the production of Elgar's first Symphony and the number of its performances in the first twelve months of its existence. The same composer's Violin concerto has excited the admiration of musicians the world over. Mackenzie's 'Britannia' Overture, Stanford's 'Irish Rhapsodies, Cowen's 'The Butterfly's Ball,' Edward German's 'Welsh Rhapsody' and 'Henry VIII. Dances,' works by Delius, and pieces by Balfour Gardiner and Percy Grainger, and many others all possess a well-known attractive power to the British public.

Turning to choral works, Sullivan's 'Golden Legend,' Coleridge-Taylor's 'Hiawatha' and 'A Tale of Old Japan,' Hubert Bath's 'The Wedding of Shon Maclean' are all popular successes; and no choral work in recent years has attained such widespread acceptance as Elgar's 'The Dream of Gerontius.' The popularity of our song-writers of all grades is too obvious to dwell upon. The ceaseless stream of production may make it difficult for any particular song to become prominent, but prominence is attained by a certain number, and it is doubtful if the activity of London publishers in the issue of new matter is equalled by any Continental firm. Certainly no nation can show such a list of popular songs by women composers. With the artistic value of all these productions I am not now concerned, but their existence and their enormous sales negative the assertion that the British public is indifferent to native art.

The charges against English critics are little short of 'insolent' perversion. To say that native works are 'dismissed with faint blame or more damning faint praise by our professional critics' does more credit to the writer's imagination than to his perception of veracity and knowledge of criticism. As a matter of fact an obvious fault of English critics is that they are too lenient. One has only to turn back to the comments on festival novelties to perceive that nearly all the new works have been over-praised and their faults lightly touched upon. The success of Elgar's Violin concerto was imperilled by the laudatory Press

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The Musical Times

AND SINGING-CLASS CIRCULAR. FEBRUARY 1, 1915.

The article in our January issue giving 'Some reflections of a native composer' has attracted much attention. We give below comments made by writers fully competent to discuss the questions raised by our contributor. For our part we think that on the whole critics deal very sympathetically with British music, and they are as glad as are the public and the publishers when the man arrives.

SOME REFLECTIONS OF AN ENGLISH MUSICAL CRITIC

By F. GILBERT WEBB.

The recent and present attention drawn to the position and condition of British musicians, and particularly to the lot of British composers, surely augurs well for their immediate future.

The Musical Times, ever reflective since its foundation in 1844 of the phases of the passing hour, has had several articles of late on the subject. Mr. Ernest Newman, in an open letter to composers, has given sage advice with fatherly solicitude, and last month Mr. Frederick Corder pleaded the cause of the teacher, while an anonymous writer gave us 'Some reflections of a native composer.' These and other articles are evidently written with the best of intentions; but through them all runs a vein of pessimism which especially in the last-named effusion is calculated to reduce young composers to despair. Not only is it maintained that the British public has shown callous indifference to native music, that its performance spells ruin, and compatriot critics treat it with insolent contempt, but the conceptions of our writers are all wrong and their works 'are ignoble and servile imitations of the methods of our foreign competitors'! The intention of the reflective accuser may be excellent, but one instinctively thinks of the

> Perhaps it was right to dissemble your love, But-why did you kick me downstairs?

Nothing is more dangerous to truth than the endeavour to prove a case, and few social influences are more destructive than accusations containing The present moment is so full of opportunities for our art that it is most necessary to arrest the circulation of statements conducive to false impressions. Above all is it most undesirable to depress our creative musicians by exaggerating the mistakes they have made and the wrongs they have suffered in the past. That past will soon be very far away. Whatever course the War may take, we stand on the eve of a new era of social life. Already the observer can see subtle changes in our midst which must inevitably develop.

It is not a time for looking back, but for careful watchfulness of the present and anticipation of the the student of men the revolutionary nature of many recent compositions was but the harbinger of what has now come, and is coming, upon us.

Now this future will be a sorry one for our musicians if 'the reflections of a native composer' are true. It is evident, however, that his mirror is of the distorting kind which confuses rather than clears the minds of those who look into it. First with regard to the attitude of the British public. It is true that the London Symphony Orchestra in its season of 1913-14 eschewed British works, but in the present season the ban has been removed; and no one who has attended the Promenade Concerts given by the Oueen's Hall Orchestra can say that works by British composers are not attentively listened to, and their merits acknowledged to the full, by the audience. Moreover, works which prove successful are repeated in the succeeding season. The history of classic music contains nothing to compare with the interest excited by the production of Elgar's first Symphony and the number of its performances in the first twelve months of its existence. The same composer's Violin concerto has excited the admiration of musicians the world over. Mackenzie's 'Britannia' Overture, Stanford's 'Irish Rhapsodies,' Cowen's 'The Butterfly's Ball,' Edward German's 'Welsh Rhapsody' and 'Henry VIII. Dances,' works by Delius, and pieces by Balfour Gardiner and Percy Grainger, and many others all possess a well-known attractive power to the British public.

Turning to choral works, Sullivan's 'Golden Legend,' Coleridge-Taylor's 'Hiawatha' and 'A Tale of Old Japan,' Hubert Bath's 'The Wedding of Shon Maclean' are all popular successes; and no choral work in recent years has attained such widespread acceptance as Elgar's 'The Dream of Gerontius.' The popularity of our song-writers of all grades is too obvious to dwell upon. The ceaseless stream of production may make it difficult for any particular song to become prominent, but prominence is attained by a certain number, and it is doubtful if the activity of London publishers in the issue of new matter is equalled by any Continental firm. Certainly no nation can show such a list of popular songs by women composers. With the artistic value of all these productions I am not now concerned, but their existence and their enormous sales negative the assertion that the British public is indifferent to native art.

The charges against English critics are little short of 'insolent' perversion. To say that native works are 'dismissed with faint blame or more damning faint praise by our professional critics' does more credit to the writer's imagination than to his perception of veracity and knowledge of criticism. As a matter of fact an obvious fault of English critics is that they are too lenient. One has only to turn back to the comments on festival novelties to perceive that nearly all the new works have been over-praised and their faults lightly Music is, and always has been, the touched upon. The success of Elgar's Violin reflection of the general outlook, mode of living, concerto was imperilled by the laudatory Press and paramount emotionalism of its period, and to remarks made before its production. To say that

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the critic's 'attitude towards contemporary British music is too often one of insolent contempt' is an and difficulties, but they are not 'the indifference untruth that confutes itself. Such an attitude would of the public, the damning attitude of the not be tolerated by the editor of any journal of

In any body of men there must be varying ability, and now and again one of narrow views or distorted vision, but he is the exception that proves the rule. Recent musical criticism of the London Press testifies to the knowledge, acumen, sanity, earnestness, and artistic perception of the writers. The fact that London criticisms are among the most prized by Continental musicians is irrefutable proof of the justness of their verdicts and their integrity. It would be unnecessary to state these facts were it not that the above wild accusations brought against critics were calculated to stimulate the spirit of animosity which unfortunately ever slumbers between the creator and the This instinctive feeling of opposition is to be discouraged, because the creator and the critic can be of such great help to each other. If one considers for a moment, the man who spends his life in listening and analysing all classes of music must in a few years either have a keen perception of the value of a work or be a hopeless dullard. It should not be forgotten that a critic's position and success in his profession depend upon the truth of

Finally, our composers are accused of 'ignoble and servile imitations of the methods of our foreign competitors.' Now all the greatest composers have in their early days been imitators, but we scarcely call their early efforts 'ignoble or servile.' Very few writers possess originality, but those who do convert old material and methods into something new. Sullivan studied for some time at Leipsic, but there is nothing German in his music. It is doubtful if any man possesses a more intimate or wider knowledge of contemporary music than Elgar, but it has not hampered the development of his individuality. Parry, Mackenzie, Stanford, all studied the works of foreign composers, and under foreign teachers, but your ideas by thinking about them on paper. there is nothing foreign in their best works. Education can only be achieved by the analysis of the finest models, and it must be admitted that the greatest works are by foreigners. The fault of many of our composers is not their intimate acquaintance with foreign works and methods, but that they have used these methods as mediums of expression instead of employing them as tools to work out their own ideas.

With regard to publishers, are they not often maligned, and are not a considerable number of composers living comfortably on their royalties? It is said that Sullivan only received £5 for his setting of 'Orpheus and his lute,' but he made £3,000 by 'The lost chord.' It is the reputation of the composer which is of value to the publisher, consequently the unknown writer has no my own article next day. You composers, a life, as market value whatever. To publish his work is a the other hand, suffer from too much leisure; you in the speculation. If it be a success the publisher will grind away at your full score for weeks, a proporti be the first to recognise it, and the composer will perhaps months, until everything in it seems benefit.

Our composers are faced with many obstacles professional critics towards British music, and the unwillingness of British publishers to print British works.' To say this is to engender suspicion and class-hatred of which no good can come. Many attributes are necessary to secure success. The fundamental cause of failure lies in the man himself, and in most cases is misconception of his abilities. What our young composers most need is development of their individuality by study of literature and human nature. The true composer is a poet first and a musician afterwards.

REFLECTIONS REFRACTED: A REPLY TO 'A NATIVE COMPOSER.'

By 'A CRITIC.'

When I began to read your reflections in the last number of the Musical Times, I thought you were one of those miserable 'grousers' who do infinite harm to the art by making the world imagine that music and manhood are incompatible I put the article down once as not worth reading but I am glad that I took it up again, because by persevering to your fourth column I found that m first impression was wrong. Perhaps the Editor was not actually as kind as were his intention in giving you such a free run on his space The blue pencil has its uses sometimes, and if it had robbed you of your opening growl at the unkindness of the world it would have insured greater number of people reading the pith and substance of your thought, which begins to make itself clear on page 14.

But there! I am beginning, according to my odious habit as a critic, by finding fault, which of course will put your back up at once, whereas my true intent is not to find fault but to draw attention -my own, yours, and other people's-to some d

I daresay that you have a good deal of right on your side in what you say about critics. Having searched my conscience narrowly I cannot feel quite confident that you would place me amongs the 'one or two honourable exceptions.' Not that You ha my musical knowledge and training are so very (they may have been quite at rudimentary thorough in their way as yours have been in the He may art of musical composition); nor because I am I feel browbeaten by editors and proprietors (I am not) but because I can recall many instances where! have had to pass a hasty judgment for publication in a paper which happened to be going to pres unconscionably early. Sometimes I have been so pays his painfully aware of the haste of the thing that I the mas have not dared to open the paper and read cannot to you to be plain as a pikestaff. You get

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tremendously interested in details, and by the time you have done with it you are absolutely dead sure that that score is brimming over with new and dreamed of before. You have no idea either how many of those details are really mere platitudes, or how few of those that are new can be grasped by the listener who hears the music for the first time and gleans one general impression. The things that jump to his ear most readily are the likenesses to a dozen other works which he knows, and you are naturally dreadfully disappointed when he remarks in his paper next day that the new symphonic poem is 'wanting in originality,' or something which seems to you like blank stupidity backed by apathy.

I am afraid that such leisure as yours and such haste as the critic's will go on being at loggerheads. But need that trouble you very much? Perhaps you say 'Yes' because, though you do not care a straw what the critic says, and indeed 'never read the newspapers,' &c. (most composers do say that), the unthinking public takes its opinions from them, and the laconic remark about want of originality may ruin the chances of a second performance. Personally I doubt it. I am so used to praising works which the public will not listen to a second time, and crabbing others which the public swarms to hear, that I cannot be a devout believer in the omnipotence of the Press. Where I believe that the Press has power is as a corroborative influence. If Jones hears your new symphonic poem and likes j it, he tells Robinson: 'I heard a ripping thing last night, and the Daily Trumpeter says it's the finest thing that's been done since the "Pathetic" symphony.' Then, I admit, Jones and Robinson look out for a second performance. But suppose Jones hears it and does not care for it, and the Daily Trumpeter still trumpets; he just says, 'These critic fellows are always bucking over tosh of that sort,' and he and Robinson go to see the 'Girl from Uganda,' or wherever the reigning girl of the moment may hail from. The fact is you have got to get your public first and then the Press can help you along, but not before.

But perhaps you will turn up a nose of scorn at the idea of courting the vulgar Jones and Robinson. You have a right to do so. There are two perfectly so ver sane and logical attitudes for an artist to take nite at lowards his public, but he cannot take them both. in the He may say 'I am writing simply what I feel as se I am I feel it, and those who cannot appreciate it are m not the losers'; or he may say, 'I am going to find out what the public can appreciate, and do it as well as I can for them.' In the first case he is nobody's servant, so he cannot complain if nobody have him. He may, of course, one day become that I the master of the public, like Wagner; but he cannot be sure of it, though he may spend his mastery. sers, at life, as Wagner did, in prophesying his mastery. re; you In the second case he may expect payment in eks, a proportion as he serves the public well.

not only to play down to the public but to play the public down below itself. You complain, in what I take to be the best part of your reflections, of vital ideas put in a way which have never been the attempt to serve up counterfeit foreign music to a public which too greedily devours the genuine article. That is one way in which the attempt to serve the public goes wrong amongst British composers, but I am not at all sure that a conscious nationalism is its cure. A conscious nationalism is just as likely to be superficial as any other conscious 'ism,' and on your own showing it is very unlikely to be successful as a means of serving the public's requirements. I am afraid I see signs of this superficiality in your very words on the subject. example, you talk about putting 'English cider into empty champagne bottles.' Do you suppose that one Briton in a thousand drinks English cider? You know we drink bad beer in public houses and worse tea in —— shops. It is no use romancing about it; those are the commonplace British drinks. But directly the British composer begins to think about his 'Britishness' he becomes an incorrigible romancer. He talks about 'English cider,' conjures up the days of 'good Queen Bess,' and translates his country into terms of a drinking chorus in a comic opera. We are back again in an artificiality as dire as the affected foreign accent.

You speak of 'the delightful and distinctive flavour of old English music,' and I agree with you. There is no music that I love better. But do you suppose that the writers of that music were trying to be national? Not a bit of it. Look at Purcell, with his overtures like those of Lully, and his sonatas written 'after the best Italian models.' And yet we feel Purcell's music to be British to the bone. Lully could no more have written the music to 'King Arthur' or the 'Faery Queen' than Saint-Saëns could have written 'Blest Pair of Sirens.' The two composers of these works, whose names both happen to begin with a P, have written typically British music which no foreigner could have written or would have cared to have written. But how have they done it? Not by thinking about their 'Britishness,' but because they happened to be part and parcel of the life around them. In fact, because they could not help it.

If that be true, and I for one am sure that it is, it does not very much matter which of the two attitudes the composer adopts towards his public. Or rather he will not adopt one at all. If he has really learned to express himself in his music, his nationality will come out in it just to the extent, and no further, to which his own mind and character are reflections of his nation's mind and character. Other members of his nation will recognize this, will feel that his music chimes with some thought or aspiration of their own, and so come to love it.

How soon they will make the discovery depends upon a lot of things. If the work is technically simple, like Walford Davies's 'Solemn Melody' for example, they can make it at once; if it is big But here comes the difficulty. He who sets and complicated, like—what shall I say? Elgar's You get himself to serve the public is apt, as we all know, I 'Falstaff,' to choose an example at random—it may

take a long, long time. So it may be greeted with applause at Promenade concerts, or it may wait two hundred years to produce the agreement of two rather cantankerous people (like you and me) who will say that it has 'a delightful and distinctive flavour.' In either case it will not matter very much what the Daily Trumpeter says the day after its first performance; but if the critic of the Daily Trumpeter happens to be among the first to taste that delightful and distinctive flavour,—well, he is a lucky fellow: that is what he lives for.

In the 'Music and Art' Friday column of the Yorkshire Post, to which so many readers look forward, the well-known musical critic of that paper devotes a large part of his article on January 1 to a consideration of the Musical Times article. He says:

As for the professional critics, it is, to begin with, not quite just to lump them together. If an English critic has any merit, it is that he is independent. As a rule he takes his own line, and is not much influenced by even his most friendly colleagues. I remember how Francis Hueffer, of The Times, one of the earliest Wagnerians in this country, used to 'chum' with Sutherland Edwards, of the St. James' Gazette, the biographer of Rossini and historian of the Prima Donna, whose sympathies were largely with the old Italian opera. And, speaking generally, it will be found that the critic represents himself, and that his opinions, whether good or bad, are at least his own, and so individual that it is impossible to lump them with those of his contemporaries in the airy fashion adopted by those who talk with contempt of what 'the critics' say. The writer in the Musical Times asserts that the critic's 'attitude towards contemporary British music is too often one of insolent contempt,' a generalisation which it is more easy to make than to disprove, though my own impression is that, if one were to search the 'Press opinions' quoted in advertisements of oratorios and cantatas published by Novello, one would find not a few cases where the glamour of a first performance had warmed the writer to a glow of enthusiasm that did more credit to his heart than to his head-or let us say to his patriotism than to his critical judgment.

The 'excuse' put forward on his behalf by the writer may be repudiated with contempt. He says, in the words following the sentence already quoted, 'To be fair, however, one must see a certain amount of excuse in that he is employed principally to help to increase the circulation of the paper he represents, and as things are at present the newspaper-reading public holds it as an article of faith that music from abroad always was and always will be immeasurably superior to the home-grown variety.' Presumably the critic has the interests of his paper at heart, but I do not think it can be said that this affects his judgment to the extent of making him profess to dislike that which in his heart he approves. Certainly the public opinion that is expressed in applause of the inartistic antics of a virtuoso or the shop ballads sung by a popular prima donna will not be found to have an echo in the criticism of

any responsible critic.

To suggest, however, that a newspaper critic has any influence upon the public taste seems to me to be a mistake. He may satisfy his conscience by upholding what he thinks is good, but, after all, the public, when it pays to listen to music, will have what it likes, and if the British composer can satisfy the public taste he will meet with recognition in spite of the 'insolent contempt' which it is said is the critic's attitude towards him. J. W. Davison, the most powerful critic of his day, who never ceased to extol Sterndale Bennett and to abuse Wagner, was no more able to make a place among the elect for the one than he was to stay the triumph of the other by a single hour. As regards the attitude of the public, I do not believe that 'the vast majority of our countrymen are entirely convinced that the first thing

needful to musical salvation is the possession of a fore name.' The popularity which Sullivan achieved, and wide Elgar now enjoys, are a sufficient proof to the contrary, as so far as my own observation extends, it is to the effect the public entertains a certain prejudice against 'long-hand foreigners.' And, as regards conductors, to whom the writer devotes some space, I am under the impression the such expert conductors as Henry Wood, Thomas Beechan and Landon Ronald have a very considerable following, a spite of their indubitable British origin.

Mr. F. C. Tilney sends us the following comments:-

In your admirable article, 'Some Reflections of a Native Composer' (January 1, 1915), you ask for 'a unbiassed public,' a desideratum which, as you imply would put British music on its feet. Of whom, Sir, do you ask this: of the public itself? The public is not a concretibing. It cannot be buttonholed, reprimanded, or please with, for it is a mere abstraction. The only way is to but out what causes its bias and then set about the adjustment.

A committee was recently formed with the intenta of reinstating the British musical reputation. I do not know whether this committee is still at work or not; but I know that its first meeting showed little promise. It gathed together all branches and sections of the profession, each a which had its grievance to air, although none could sagre a remedy. That was not surprising, because of all the represented factors there was not one which was a default. They were all victims. The culprit was not there. He him to been invited. The culprit is the patron.

When you, Sir, ask for an unbiassed public, you are sking for a patron with a conscience. If such a creature exists is the nearest approach to anything tangible in that nebula

entity the public.

First of all, what section of the public is responsible in the bias? The lower classes? No, for they support in home-industries of the music-hall. The middle-class then? No, for they are the real amateurs and applied what pleases them regardless of the nationality of compose They have made Elgar, as they made Edward German in Sullivan. It must be the upper-classes, then, who is responsible for the bias. Since music has in the past benesing of superior culture, and has therefore implied going the upper-classes, being in the mass conservation have always supported it. Since, further, any more associated with distant lands and unpronounceable mass implied still more distinction from the bourgeois population with whom travel and foreign tongues were not in commit usage, the upper-classes have been able to adopt a pose wider taste and more liberal education by pretending a hunger for what was caviare to the general. This set in fashion, put the premium upon foreign art, and stablish the native product. The rest was simply the rolling of the ball: the effect after the cause.

The cheques of the aristocracy are the backbone of the finances of the Royal Opera House, Covent Gards When one walks round the tiers of that famed pile and real the names upon the doors of the boxes it is like realing Debrett. The operas there produced are those of law Germany, and France. Within the last thirty years the have been some important opportunities for these aristoma patrons to write cheques in support both of British operations to write cheques in support both of British operations of British singers in foreign opera. Have they do so? Never once. These ventures have failed for lact the financial support which keeps the foreign opera syndiant flourishing. Here we are, then, with our finger upon the support was the support of the supp

plague spot.

British music was stultified when the Hanoverians is came to our Court. The term 'native' then been synonymous with 'undistinguished.' Under such condition it is easy to see that the foreign music-master stepped, invitation, into the shoes of the British teacher; and the foreign music came, ipso facto, to bear the cache superiority, which meant that native art was looked as the mediocre strivings of an uninspired communication of the aristocracy and its boxes at the open-wherein the occupants probably wish themselves at so less boring Society function.

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Surely, then, the first step towards doing justice to British music is to approach this aristocratic patronage; to beg it to cast away its conventions and affectations and to widen its cat away its conventions and affectations and to widen its sympathies. On the present patriotic wave these patrons would lend a ready ear. The newly-formed committee should errol the leading lights of the nobility, who would be glad to act in so patriotic a cause. They could work among their peers, making them pledge their honour to apport British music and British executants. Everything the would follow naturally, for the agents, entrepreneurs, and publishers have no bias except towards the thing that will pay. The effect of this upon native composition would mon be felt. The English tradition in music is not yet so soon be left. The English tradition in music is not yet so the moribund as to be beyond recovery. Sir Hubert Parry, for hee, has kept it alive. I am convinced that English music would catch at the hearts of the people at once if it were really spontaneous. We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that even revivals of old styles, like the 'Henry VIII. Dances,' find their billet at once and stick. The popularity of the Savoy seems was due to the English character. its which Sullivan operas was due to the English characte' ies which Sullivan deliberately adopted. They were clear outline, joyous weetness, diatonic progression, and a downrightness that we find in Purcell. Surely all this is not incompatible with modern orchestration and modern colour and effects? We can develop on one line as well as on another. Let us develop on our own. An art that is indigenous will be popular however advanced it be. With music as a popular expression, we should have no more 'Tipperary' booms, for we should be a musical country as we were in the days of the Tudors and the Stuarts.

THE QUESTION OF THE BIRMINGHAM FESTIVAL.

BY ERNEST NEWMAN.

Readers of The Times correspondence about the Birmingham Festival, reproduced in the Musical Times last month, will have noticed that the discussion was initiated by one London musician, Sir Charles Stanford, and continued by two other London musicians, Sir Walter Parratt and Sir Frederick Bridge. One would have thought that the place most concerned in the matter was not London but Birmingham. As a resident of Birmingham, and one especially interested in the development of music there, I should like to express the Birmingham view on the subject, or at least one of the Birmingham views. So far as Iknow, it is a view that has not yet found expression in The Times. We have had Sir Charles Stanford objecting to the postponement of the Festival because it means a monetary loss to certain performers-mostly Londoners-who might have been engaged for it. We have had Mr. Alfred Wiggin, the chairman of the Orchestral Committee, declaring that it is necessary to postpone the Festival because to hold it this year would probably mean a money loss to the Birmingham General Hospital-which, owing to the folly of our ancestors, is inseparably mixed up, to our bane, with the question of music in

two or three unusually good works unusually well performed; they hear a new work or twoperhaps even a new work of their own-and one or two works that they have little chance of hearing elsewhere; they spend a pleasant day or two in the town, meeting old friends, enjoying, besides the music, much good eating and drinking and talking; and they go home again happy for another experience of a kind that cannot be had in any other way. That is all very well for them: but what of the town that provides this feast? What the more thoughtful residents always ask themselves after one of these functions is: 'Is it better to have good music just once in three winters, or once every week in every winter? And is it possible to have the latter while so much energy and so much money are wasted on the former?' It is because Birmingham people, having asked this question in a desultory and halfserious way for many years, are now asking it very seriously and answering it very bluntly, that the feeling for the Festival is everywhere cooling down among the musicians of the town. Birmingham is the least musical large town in Europe-perhaps we may say, in the world. It has few good concerts; it has no real orchestra; it is ignorant not merely of music as a whole and of new music in particular, but of many works that have within the last few years become more or less familiar to London, Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow. We want to make Birmingham a musical city. What stands in the way of that achievement? Firstly, the lack of a strong local leader sufficiently above all partisanship to be able to reconcile the cliques whose jealousies have done so much to injure Birmingham music. In the second place, we want an organized financial effort that will secure for us a more or less permanent orchestra, with a succession of competent conductors. Many attempts have been made to establish orchestral concerts, but all have failed, largely because the financial backing was insufficient. The guarantee system has broken down. The easiest year for any new concert venture is the first. The most difficult are the second and the third, when the primary enthusiasm has abated somewhat, and a few guarantors have begun to regret the sums they have had to pay. After the third year it is generally hard to keep going, though everyone feels that if we could get through a fourth and fifth season the success of the concerts would be assured. The same people are called upon to finance each new venture; it is not to be wondered at that it becomes increasingly difficult to induce them to guarantee. It is now clear that the only sure basis for an orchestral foundation in Birmingham is a capital fund Birmingham. But there is a third question to the interest on which would suffice for the be considered, which, to my mind, is of greater inevitable losses in the first few years, when the importance than that of the artists' pockets or that expenses are always relatively greatest, and would of the coffers of the General Hospital; and that afterwards permit of a good deal of boldness in is the question of music in Birmingham and the the matter of new programmes. £100 paid under effect of the Festival on this. A Festival is a a guarantee is gone for ever; the same £100 given very jolly thing for people who come to it from as a contribution to a capital fund remains for a distance. They may be lucky enough to hear ever, only the interest being used. We may put

the average loss on a series of winter concerts in so plentiful as in this, a composer should be Birmingham at about £700 to £800. interest on a capital fund of £20,000 would all. There might be some reason for paying provide for this; the amount given in guarantees and donations-and wasted on the Festivalduring the last fifteen years or so cannot be far short of that sum.

A town must make its choice between having a Festival and being musical. It cannot have both. The proof of this stares us in the face. really musical provincial towns-Liverpool, Manchester and Glasgow-have no Festivals. Those that have Festivals-Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield, Norwich, Bristol, &c .- are not musical in the sense that the towns just mentioned are; they do not get so much music as those three places, the music as a whole is not so good, and they hear fewer new works. The antinomy is not accidental; it is in the nature of cause and effect. A big Festival destroys the general musical life of a town by draining it of money, and by spending that money wastefully. The most liberal of people will set aside each year only a certain amount for the support of local music; and if too much of this goes in one direction too little of it will necessarily have to go in others. Musical Festivals are run in a wasteful fashion partly because the traditions make for needless expenditure, partly because they are in the hands of well-meaning people who do not know the musical world. Examine, in the light of pure business, one or two of the items in the expenditure of the average Festival. Many of the performers connected with it are absurdly overpaid. A Festival is regarded by them all as fair game; it is to them what a rich estate is to the As the conductor of one big Festival remarked to me, 'Just mention "Festival" to them, and up go their prices like a rocket.' I have heard of a case of a singer's fee being £300 for four performances, and not by any means exacting performances. There is not a singer in England worth half that amount to any box office. Take again the point of advertising. Huge posters are put up in all sorts of likely and unlikely places in all sorts of towns; prospectuses are sent out; advertisements are inserted in various London and provincial papers; yet the real return from all this expenditure must be very slight. The people outside the town who are interested in the Festival know quite well when it is due, and generally know-from the musical journals, for instance—what the programme is to be. For all the actual good it does to the box office, nine-tenths of the money spent on advertising the Festival might as well be thrown into the sea. So with the sums spent on furnishing and decorating the rooms of the principal artists. If these rooms are good enough for the same people in this respect in the old days; but now one hear a month before or a month after the Festival, with amazement, that the Birmingham General they are surely good enough for them Hospital Committee is responsible for the financia during the Festival. Excessive payments, again, of the Festival. With all respect, I can only si are made to composers for the doubtful privilege that these worthy people are about as well qualified of a first performance of a new work. In a to run a musical Festival as I am to perform country in which concerts are so few and composers | operation for appendicitis.

The thankful that he can get a big work performed large sum for the first performance of one of the world's masterpieces; but the average work give at a Festival is a long remove from being the For the ordinary work of the ordinary compose nothing more should be paid than the performing fee the composer could command in the ordinar course from any English concert society. If he did not choose to accept this, he could be polite recommended to get a bigger fee elsewhere,he could.

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And what is the outcome, so far as Birminghan is concerned, of all this waste? Many of the performances have nothing to distinguish then from an ordinary concert given by precisely the same people at another time of the year. But the public is expected to pay two or three times a much for a performance that is only a little, a perhaps not at all, better than the average. And how is a Festival audience made up? (Birmingham music lovers? By no means. Fin of all there are a number of critics from various parts of the country-excellent fellows, of course whose countenances give an intellectual look to the hall that it would otherwise lack, but not a source of financial profit to the Festival. There are small number of enthusiasts from other townsmostly people whom one sees at almost every Festival in the country. There are a number people from Birmingham and the neighbourn country towns whose interest in music is obvious of the slightest, for they take no part in the musical life of the town during the intervening three years; their interest in the Festival is puth charitable, partly social. There are a few hundred of the richer music lovers of the city. Then are a number of empty seats, or, which is a worse scandal, seats that would other wise be empty are occupied by nurses it uniform or by other people who are as obvious deadheads. The upshot of it all is that of of the million inhabitants of Birminghan and the immediate neighbourhood, not more than about a thousand get any benefit out of the Festivi at all, and of these thousand not three hundred are people who help to keep music going during the rest of the year-the real lovers of music There are many who would like to go, but the prices are prohibitive; and they are prohibiting because the Festival is run with an improvidence that would bring any ordinary business into the bankruptcy court in six months. These Festival are in the hands of men whose good intention are beyond dispute, but who simply have not an cannot have the knowledge and the experience that such work requires. Things were bad enough

I hope I have made it clear to Londoners why Sir Charles Stanford's appeal for the continuance of the Festival in the interests of the performers has fallen on deaf ears so far as Birmingham is concerned. Sir Charles Stanford put it in his first letter that 'to drop the Festival means a loss to the musical profession . . of not less than some £5,000. To hold it as usual might or might not mean a loss at this juncture of about £2,500. Is not the rich capital of the Midlands prepared to risk that sum rather than fine the players and singers who have worked so loyally for her in the past, a sum of nearly treble the amount?' (I do not quite follow Sir Charles's arithmetic, by the way.) In a second letter he says that 'the Hospital Committee, which has profited by the exertions of musicians to the tune of many thousands of pounds, will not return the compliment if it involves any risk.' But surely all this is to look after itself. very fallacious? If I were the Hospital Committee I think I should reply something like this: 'It is not a case of "returning a compliment." We are under no obligation whatever to the musicians who have taken part in past Festivals. We have not "profited by their exertions." It is a misuse of language to speak of our "fining" loyal workers by not re-engaging them. For whatever they have done they have been paid, and paid very handsomely. If we do not feel we can afford a Festival this year, Sir Charles Stanford has no more right to expect us, with all the other calls we have upon us, to lose £,2,500 in order to fill the pockets of a few London musicians, than we have to expect him to order a dozen superfluous diamond rings this winter in order to help the Birmingham jewellery trade, which has been grievously hard hit by the War. We will take up the Festival again when we feel we can afford it.' If the question is purely one of business and charity, I fancy such an answer would be conclusive. I admire Sir Charles Stanford for the sympathy he shows with the performing members of the musical profession, and for his desire to do what he can to help them in these hard days; but it is useless to press the matter upon either the Birmingham Committee or the Birmingham citizens on the lines he adopted in his letters. The more sensible citizens in particular, with the knowledge that a local orchestra will some day have to be endowed, that such an endowment will be harder than ever to raise after this war, and that every £100 spent on the Festival is at the best of times £ 100 lost to the cause of permanent music in the town, would view with horror the spending of £2,500 of Birmingham money on London musicians for sentimental reasons. I, for my part, would prefer to see the Festival shelved for ever in favour of a permanent orchestra. All the Festival

aware that if the Festival were discontinued, nothing like the whole of the money spent on it would be given to the cause of music pure and simple. Nor would I wish the Hospital to suffer the least loss. The people who give to the Festival only for the sake of the Hospital could send their donations to this direct; while the musical subscribers could give their contributions direct to the cause of a permanent orchestra. It is really monstrous that the development of music in Birmingham should be held back for all time by the greedy hand of the General Hospital. correspondent who wrote under the title of 'An Undistinguished Musician,' did well to wax sarcastic at the expense of the Hospital Committee. Music has done great things for the Hospital; if the Hospital will do nothing for music in Birmingham, it is surely time for music to begin

ACTING IN OPERA. By F. BONAVIA.

The severe censure passed recently upon the acting of English singers has called attention to a subject seldom discussed, and only mentioned when it is found in superlatively good or bad degree. Is competent acting much rarer in opera than in drama? Are English singers less gifted in this respect than foreign singers? These are the questions which present themselves most urgently to one's mind.

The answer to the first is not easy. Really good acting (as distinguished from competent or tolerable acting) is extremely rare in either case. As long as Falstaff on the dramatic stage may be mistaken for Father Christmas, and Rosalind is reminiscent of the pert boy in the pantomime, it cannot be wondered at if the action of singers is seldom deserving of notice at all. The ability to act, though often considerably under-estimated, is not the only or the most necessary qualification for the operatic stage. As a general rule singing still remains the main consideration. Singers, moreover, have not a tradition in regard to acting. Before Irving, there were at least a dozen eminent actors whose fame has lived. Acting in opera is a comparatively modern accomplishment. demanded 'voice, voice, and again voice' of his interpreters. We may read everywhere of the marvellous voices that singers such as Mario, Pasta, or Malibran had, but of their skill in acting there is hardly any mention to be found anywhere. What tradition there is in regard to acting is misleading, if not worse. Before Wagner there were the common-places of the Italians. With Wagner there came a new idea which in its turn has become a danger and an obsession. The notion that the actors should form a series of pleasing pictures was originally can do, this could do; but the concerts would be more plentiful, the prices would be more reasonable, and the genuine musical public of the town would be better off. As a necessary never dared turn their back to the public or never dared turn their back to the public or the conductor. In comparing consequence, the musical profession would also take their eye from the conductor. In combating be better off, for the performers would get far these and similar absurdities the movement was more Birmingham engagements. I am well distinctly beneficial.

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To-day its task is done and it must in its turn make way for something less stilted, less angular, which would not offend our notions of what have something of the studied harmony which is acting should be. Its use and abuse can be the outcome of serious consideration as well as seen to-day in any Wagnerian production. The ludicrous step of the Wagnerian Knights in 'Lohengrin' and 'Parsifal' is the direct outcome of this school of acting, although there are reasons to suspect that this peculiarly slow and inelegant gait was devised to meet the requirements of the music. If the procession of Knights in Grail Castle, or if the Knights who set the lists for the combat in 'Lohengrin,' were to march in the usual way, they would reach the furthest end of the stage character is left vividly impressed, just as good long before the accompanying music had come novelists can stamp a character in a sentence and within sight of the last bars. Hence this 'snail-step' in which after one foot has advanced the other is dragged behind it, giving an impression of some physical defect in each foot in turn. proceeding has been hallowed by the usual catchwords of traditional reverence and æstheticism, but it is difficult to imagine a more unheroic effect than the procession of Grail Knights swaying first to right and then to left like a ship tossed in a heavy sea, to say nothing of the complications arising should a Knight step out with the wrong foot.

It is said that every step and every gesture in Wagnerian opera has been approved and its infallibility established by a committee of Wagnerian mandarins. And seeing that the practice varies so very little, I have no difficulty in believing it. Every Siegmund I have ever seen-after the sudden opening of the door in the first Act of 'The Valkyries'-has taken Sieglinde to the fireside to sing the joys of springtime. Yet the action is undefensible. The sudden bursting open of the door is a masterpiece of dramatic effect. Imagine the two lovers in the dark hut vigorous nodding of the head, as a spoilt child with Hunding lying drugged in the next chamber. Imagine the furtive hopes, the stealthy steps, the Covent Garden has no monopoly in incompetent anxious preparations for urgent flight, then the acting. All the chief European theatres of open sudden flood of light and air. No wonder are much on the same footing. And at Cover Sieglinde shrieks, asking the name of the dreaded Garden one sees occasionally some excellent visitor. Obviously, what any sensible Siegmund performances. English singers are very much would then do would be to reassure her, and he might even grow extravagantly lyrical in praise of spring, but without taking first the precaution of a comfortable attitude in a cosy corner. Actors It was not only a capital realisation of all the pla of a fixed type, the exponents of a not perfect stands for; it was also a criticism and a considerable system, are apt to blunder no less than actors of the refining of the author's ideas. Where the author so-called 'natural' kind. The former can be absolutely grotesque; the latter, at worst, utterly vulgar.

A serious disadvantage of opera singers is that they rarely have the chance of testing their skill in her part is free from lines like Scarpia's 'My por the acting of comedy. What a world of good it would do to these Siegfrieds, Samsons, and Manricos to go through a thorough course of Gilbert and Sullivan. Nothing else could show them quite as well the point where the sublime becomes ridiculous; nothing else would teach them good performances by English singers this on to define with the same nicety between dignity and alone would be enough to turn the scales heard pompousness, for comedy punishes all excess. It in their favour. Certainly no other soprano sings is significant that Germany, the cradle of the did anything as good last season, either at Cover 'beautiful picture' movement in opera, has never Garden or Drury Lane. shown any creative appreciation of comedy.

This, of course, is not equivalent to an apology for 'natural' acting. The best actors the plasticity and the plausibility of perfectly instinctive action. Chaliapin makes a magnificent picture when he first comes on the stage in 'Boris' but it is impossible to think of him at all as one thinks of a noble piece of statuary or painting The ever-changing shades of facial expression the gestures, the gait, are inseparable in the final impression. It is not any one definite moment that remains in the memory, but the whole then add to our knowledge of it by every subse quent word. Chaliapin is the ideal actor. But to expect others to equal him would be impossible What can be expected from others is that they should avoid what is obviously absurd.

No other theatre in Europe offers the same opportunities that Covent Garden does of seeing the gulf which divides the average singer, as a actor, from Chaliapin. Covent Garden is the arena where the best singers of France, Italy and Germany compete for the favour of the London public. There we may see an Italian chorus-al nature's gentlemen-enjoying so much their tenporary status as courtiers, warriors, conspirators that they forget to be human. What loftiness of scorn in their gestures, and how they can roar is victory or defeat! There we may see the 'snail' stop in all its varieties, and German choristers planteds firmly on their feet as if the stage were limed. There one has seen a singer confront Scarpia in 'Tosa' as an angry fishwife confronts another; or a singer whose chief notion of by-play seems to be a will do in affirmation or denial. Of course the minority there, yet one of the most remarkable pieces of acting during the last season was that of an English singer-Madame Edvina in 'Tosox saw violence, Madame Edvina brought force and tragedy; what had seemed before only a 'sensation' case 'became poignant and dramatic. Fortunate supper has been interrupted,' which, hardly credibe as it seems, are meant to make us shudder and it reveal the depth of the man's wickedness. The writers of text-books for operas are often another

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An Alarming
PROSPECT.
The following paragraph is from the column headed 'The Office Window' that appeared in the Daily Chronicle on January 20:

God save the King' is a good tune, but it is not an equitable or a correct one. It gives, as it were, short measure. It is unsymmetrical. The first part is deficient by two bars. The unusical may gauge this by the words and lines; to the musical the defect is made tolerable only by custom. It is in improving and interesting exercise to set yourself to supply two bars to follow the first two. The present writer is much attached to his own (unpublished) interpolation. What is the matter with the poor old tune? Do all other 6.6.4.6.6.6.4 tunes and hymns come under the curse? It is not clear whether the ominous statement is by the office boy or the distinguished, amiable and modest critic of the journal.

EUGEN

D'ALBERT AND
ENGLAND.

The following paragraph appeared in *The Times* on January 5 in its column headed 'Through German Eyes.'

The famous composer and pianist Eugen d'Albert has authorized the publication of a letter which he wrote in 1884 from Munich protesting against being called 'an English pianist' because he was born in England. He said:

Unfortunately I studied for a time in that land of fog, but during this period I learned absolutely nothing, and if I had sayed longer in England I should have been ruined. It is my firm conviction that the system of music teaching in England is such that every talent based upon it must be destroyed. I only began to live when I left that horrible country, and I still live only for the true and glorious German art.

On January 7 the following letter appeared:

TO THE EDITOR OF 'THE TIMES.'

SIR,—To-day in your column 'Through German Eyes' you quote a statement made by Eugen d'Albert in 1884, the reproduction of which he authorizes and which, therefore, presumably he repeats as an expression of his present opinion. But in November, 1904, twenty years after 1884, in the course of a handsome appreciation of his career, he authorized the editor of the Musical Times to say:

'The former prejudice which I had against England, which several incidents aroused, has completely vanished since many years.'

Will German papers please copy? Yours faithfully,

W. G. McNaught, Editor.

The article in our November, 1904, number was a fall biographical sketch with portrait and an illustation of d'Albert's residence at Meina, Lago Maggiore. His life in England and the warm welcome extended to him on every occasion of his public appearance were duly recorded. No one knows better than d'Albert that artists of every nationality have always been appreciated in this country—some would say that this favour has been too lavishly bestowed. Is it true that the main complaint of d'Albert was that he did not receive sufficient attention from a German pianoforte tacher at the National Training School of Music?

However this may be, it is gratifying to record that d'Albert showed some milk of human kindness in his nature, when in 1896, twelve years after the splenetic outburst quoted above, he wrote as follows to Sir John Stainer. (We are permitted by Mr. J. F. R. Stainer, now a Corporal in the Army, to make the extracts):

Leipsic,

November 30, 1896.

DEAR SIR,—First of all I must beg to be excused for not having answered your kind letter any sooner. Your request, however, put me to a difficult dilemma. On the one side I found it hard to refuse anything to you, who were always so kind and dear to me . . . I state, however, expressly, dear Sir, that this is by no means referable to yourself, and that in other respects I shall ever be readily at your disposal, as I remember with joy and sympathy the short time of my youth during which I had the favour of coming in contact with you. Believe me, dear Sir, Yours very faithfully,

(Signed) EUGEN D'ALBERT.

It would seem from this that the charm and geniality of Stainer's personality touched even Eugen d'Albert.

Eugen d'Albert was born at Glasgow on April 10, 1864. His father, whose full name was Charles Louis Napoleon d'Albert, was of German nationality, he having been born at Nienstetten on February 5, 1809. He settled at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and married a Miss Annie Rowell there. He was a dancing-master and composer of dance music. Eugen, at the age of twelve, gained a Queen Victoria Scholarship at the National Training School of Music. In 1881 he gained the Mendelssohn Scholarship, which he held for one year only. He became a pupil of Liszt, and in 1882 he settled in Germany.

We understand that Mr. O. M. Kling, who for many years has been associated with Messrs. Breitkopf & Härtel's London branch, has on his own account taken over the music publishing business of Messrs. J. & W. Chester, of Brighton. A London branch will be carried on at 54, Great Marlborough Street. Although Russian and other Continental music will form a speciality of the business, British music will receive due attention, and a lending library will be established. Mr. Kling, although so long connected with a German firm, is a Swiss. He was born at Geneva in 1866, and his father, Mr. Henry Kling, who for some time was chief of the Geneva Conservatoire of Music, was born at Paris; his mother was a Genevese. Mrs. O. M. Kling (née Victoria Kop) is a Belgian, and comes of an old Brussels family. From 1890 to 1897 Mr. Kling managed the foreign department of Messrs. Novello & Co., and subsequently he transferred his services to Messrs. Breitkopf & Härtel.

At the conclusion of the Christmas Term at the Royal College of Music the following awards were made: Council Exhibitions to Lily F. Coles, Beatrice Betts, Ethel F. Toms (singing), Thomas Whitley (oboe), Dorothy T. Davies, Alice E. Norman, Marjorie B. Wills (pianoforte), and Bernard A. R. Shore (organ); the Edmund Grove Exhibition to Alice K. E. Pattenden; the Dove Prize to William R. Allen (Scholar); the Lesley Alexander Gift between S. Dorothy Thuell (Scholar) and Timothy Toomey; the Manns Memorial Prize to Herbert N. Howells (Grove Scholar); the Leo Stern Memorial Gift for a violoncellist to Timothy Toomey.

LARGE AND SMALL ORCHESTRAS.

BY NICHOLAS GATTY.

It is a great pity that we do not recognise more clearly the essential difference between the large and small orchestra. Much more is involved than the mere question of numbers, and if it were properly understood we should no longer have perpetrated upon us such tonal outrages as 'Festival' performances, so-called, of Beethoven symphonies and the like. modern large orchestra came into being to interpret adequately modern music, since the style of writing was, in the first place, entirely changed from what had gone before; while, in the second, fresh instruments were permanently introduced, to become an integral part of the tonal scheme. orchestration involved an increase in the number of strings to obtain a right balance of tone, the reason being that the wind instruments, besides being also augmented in number, were written for in a much more penetrating manner. But when so magnificent an organization is set to play music in the older style it is thought quite sufficient to double all the wind parts in the hope of getting a good balance, it being entirely forgotten that the scoring is of an absolutely different character. Hence there result a hideous strenuousness of expression and a painful forced tone from the wind in the desperate effort to keep up with the dynamic volume of sound from the strings.

Observe, too, how the point is missed here, as was proved by the 'faking' adopted by Mr. Henri Verbrugghen at the Beethoven Festival at the Queen's Hall last April. He worked upon the plan of reducing the number of strings in the soft passages. If he had reduced them in the loud there would have been more reason in the proceeding. Surely it is sufficiently obvious that a large string orchestra can play softly enough to satisfy anyone. What matters is, whether the wind can play loud enough without destroying quality, that is, in the typical instrumental passages of the period such as are found in the Beethoven scores. This is not just the view of the purist who desires everything to be as historically exact as possible; it is simply for aesthetic reasons that the absurd practice of hoping to compete with a huge body of strings by means of doubled wind is to be so greatly deplored. Of course it is not to be denied for one moment that many of the Beethoven string passages do sound truly splendid when delivered by a large body of players under the control of an expert, and it only requires a moment's thought to realise that if one takes the period further back one can get equally fine effects from Bach and Handel. Frederick Bridge always performs the 'Messiah' with Handel's own scoring, and does not hesitate to employ a number of oboes and bassoons, just in fact as happened in Handel's time. Both the old masters scored as differently from Beethoven, Mozart, and Schubert, as these last did from Wagner and Richard

Another thing which seems to be forgotten in this connection is that the climax of dynamic force is a The high-lights are just as purely relative thing. impressive on the small as they are on the large orchestra; mere numbers, from the æsthetic standpoint, have got nothing to do with the matter at all. Probably the evil procedure in vogue at present owes its inception to Wagner himself, who did not hesitate to alter the scoring of the Choral symphony-one can never hear his alterations in the Scherzo, the new horn parts especially, without great regret. Fortunately this version is not always used.

modern audiences are so accustomed to total shocks that their ears are in danger of losing the sense of appreciation of what one may call the finer qualities of instrumental expression. But who the day of orchestral sensationalism has passed which of course it will do in due time, musical for will be keener than they are just at present h distinguish between the purely physical and emotional effects of musical sounds.

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THE COMPOSER OF THE RUSSIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM.

By M. MONTAGU-NATHAN.

The Russian National Anthem appears to take precedence of all other tunes in the public favour When troops are on the march the present time. with or without a band, this eighty-year-old refrainpractically unknown in Britain three months ag is heard more often even than 'La Marseillaise,' which for a long time has been looked upon as the model of what a martial tune should be. It has acquired a prominent place in the repertory of the errand-boy; Tipperary' itself is but a 'good second' in popularing

In the circumstances it seems rather odd that while this marching music has achieved such a vogue them should be so little curiosity in regard either to is origin or to the personality of its composer. The far that his musical career was sufficiently distinguished to bring him under the notice of such giants a Schumann, Berlioz, and Wagner, would appear in justify an assumption that the Russian National Anthem is not the sole evidence of his talent.

Alexis Feodorovich Lvov, the son of a musician as born at Reval in 1799. In those days music was was born at Reval in 1799. not commonly looked upon in Russia as a means of gaining a livelihood, and the lessons he received a home prior to embarking upon a military career wer no doubt intended to foster a taste for the art that is father, who was Director of the Imperial Court Chape at St. Petersburg, had good reasons for revents This intention was fully realised, for while young Low devoted himself so earnestly to 'soldiering' as to gain rapid promotion, he contrived to equip himself with musical technique that in both the creative and the executive departments placed him well above the status of the mere dilettante.

Russia has produced more than one instance of a composer who, following with distinction a care totally different from that of music, has had the satisfaction of seeing his operas produced in the principal musical centres of Europe. Borodin, the composer of 'Prince Igor,'-enthusiastically acclaimed at Drury Lane last summer-was an eminent scientis. César Cui, whose musical activities were spread out the two spheres of composition and criticism, wa like Lvov, a soldier, and like him too ultimate attained the rank of General. In regard # Cui, who specialised in fortification, it is interesti to note that the present Tsar was his pupil i that branch of military science. Moussorgh, the composer of 'Boris Godounov,' and Rimsy Korsakov, whose 'Ivan the Terrible,' 'A Night May,' and 'The Golden Cockerel' secured for him. the somewhat belated British recognition of his genis both relinquished their commissions (the former # in the Army, the latter in the Navy) to devet themselves to music. In their case there is the a difference from those cited above in that the orn parts especially, without great regret. Fortunately is version is not always used.

It is not likely, however, that there will be all, for, while the other composers achieved to the composers achi any change yet awhile in this deplorable practice; considerable fame in the operatic domain, Lyon ed to total of losing the ay call the But when has passed musical folk t present to nd emotional

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dramatic works, 'The Village Bailiff,' Bianca and Gualtiero,' 'Undine,' 'Starosta Boris,' and 'The Embroideress,' have none of them survived despite the fact that the second and third mentioned were performed as far afield as Dresden and Vienna.

His fame as a composer rests therefore entirely upon the Russian National Anthem. Fortunately, however, there is some quite startling evidence of his nossession of an executive skill unequalled by any of is contemporaries who excelled him in the creative sphere. Among Schumann's collected essays in which, by his timely tributes to Chopin, Brahms, and Wagner, he testified sufficiently well to his genius for recognising nd acclaiming merit, is one written in 1840 for that organ of youth and movement,' the Neue Zeitschrift fur Musik. It runs as follows:

'The composer of the famous Russian National Hymn, as well as of other works that yet await blication, Colonel Alexis Lvov, adjutant to the Tsar of Russia, arrived here a few days ago. . . . respected guest gave a small circle the opportunity of becoming acquainted with his remarkable skill as a violinist. The writer of this article considers that occasion as one of the most delightful that music and its votaries have ever afforded him. Herr Lvov is so remarkable, so rare a player, that he can only be placed beside the very first artists. . . . Many an even great artist will be reminded when listening to Many an this man, so highly favoured by fortune, that he has felt how superior to the enjoyment which merely nechnical mastery offers us is that presented by some artistic nature that has preserved its inward elevated freshness entire. I say this after listening to only two quartets, one by Mozart and one by Mendelssohn, in which Herr Lvov played the first violin. Mendelssohn himself was present, and seemed to think that he had perhaps never heard his music more finely played. It was a perfect enjoyment. there are many such dilettanti in the Russian capital, many artists may learn more there than they can teach. And should these lines ever meet the eyes of this admired musician, we trust he will accept them as an expression of the thanks of many whom he delighted on that evening, and who place his name beside the most honoured names that belong to

That a talent deserving such a eulogy as this from such a source should have been ignored by chroniclers of a later generation is a melancholy proof of the feeting nature of the instrumentalist's reputation as compared with that of the creative artist, who can at least leave behind him some tangible evidence of his

Another account of Lvov's playing, no less interesting though penned by one whose opinion was not precisely expert, is that left by Dr. A. B. Granville, Physician-in-Ordinary to H.R.H. The Duke of larence and member of many learned Societies, who in a Journal of Travels to and from St. Petersburgh (published in 1828) paid the following tribute to the gallant fiddler:

St. Petersburgh has its musical clubs, and a Societé Philharmonique. I think the finest dilettante mentioned Society. I have not heard a more delightful amateur performer since the time when la Marchesa Pallavincini used to lead some of the largest orchestras of dilettanti in Italy on that most assightly and anti-feminine musical instrument. The effect produced on those occasions was admirable; and so it is in the case of Colonel Lyov, whose execution is of the most brilliant descripon, but whose appearance in his decorated uniform,

that of La Marchesa used to be. I heard this officer, at one of the meetings of the members of the Philharmonic Society, perform some variations of his own composition on a national air, written in a minor key, in which it was not easy to determine whether his taste, coup d'archet, or exquisite facility was most conspicuous. The expression with which he drew the most melodious notes from his instrument was inconceivably fine.'

By the time of Berlioz's visit to St. Petersburg in 1847, Lvov had already made some little reputation as an operatic composer, and his French visitor refers to him not as a performer, but as General Lvov, aide-de-camp to the Emperor, 'a composer of rare talent.' It is possible that this judgment may have been the outcome of feelings of intense amiability towards everybody and everything at St. Petersburg. That Berlioz's 'Romeo and Juliet' was 'royally, imperially organized and performed,' and that the composer cleared twelve thousand francs at a single concert in the capital, where he found to his delight 'no wretched bargaining, no limitation of rehearsals,' seem sufficient reasons for supposing that he was in no mood to criticise the work of one who was not in any sense a rival. The memory of this visit had evidently not faded when, five years later, he wrote to Lvov from Paris. '. . . . Next month,' he says, 'I shall go back to England, where, at least, the wish to love music is real and persistent. If I can be of the least use to you in my newspaper articles, commend me, dear master. It will be a pleasure to tell our few earnest French readers of the great and good things that are done in Russia. It is a debt I shall gladly pay, since I shall never forget the warmth of my reception and the kindness of your Empress and your great Emperor's family. What a pity he himself does not like music!'

To Wagner we are indebted for the reminder that Lvov was at Dresden in 1844, a visit that probably led to the production of one of the General's operas in that city. Wagner mentions in his autobiography that Lvov shared a stage box with Spontini and Meyerbeer at a performance of 'Rienzi' 'before an audience of no ordinary importance.' 'I sought no opportunity,' he continues characteristically, 'of learning the impression made by my opera upon these learned judges and magnates of the musical world. It was enough for me to have the complacent satisfaction of knowing that they had heard my oft-repeated work performed before a crowded house and amid overwhelming applause.' He does not seem to have been any more impressed by Lvov's personal appearance than by his capacity for the due appreciation of Wagnerian music-drama, for, nearly twenty years later, when making arrangements with the General, then manager of the Grand Theatre, Moscow, for three concerts to be held there, he recorded the impression in his diary that 'in spite of the Orders hanging from his neck [Lvov] looked a very insignificant person.'

Lvov, had he had any say in the matter, would no doubt have chosen to be remembered first by his operas, then by his talent for violin-playing, and perhaps last of all by the little tune which he dedicated to so great a purpose. Circumstance and posterity have decreed otherwise. As the composer has in his memoirs given us a detailed account of the source and origin of the now famous hymn, we cannot do better than quote

his own words.

'In 1833 I accompanied the Emperor Nicholas on his journeys to Prussia and Austria. On returning to Russia, I was informed by Count Benkendorff that the Sovereign had expressed a regret that we Russians bolding fiddle and bow, is scarcely less singular than possessed no national hymn: being, moreover, tired

of the English tune which had been used for a stop-gap for a very long time, he commissioned me to make an

attempt to write a Russian anthem.

"This momentous duty seemed likely to prove difficult of accomplishment. In recalling the British anthem, "God save the King," which is so imposing, the French song, so full of originality, and the Austrian hymn, of which the music is so touching, I felt and fully appreciated the necessity of accomplishing something which would be robust, stately, stirring, national in character, something worthy to reverberate either in a church, through the soldiers' ranks, or amongst a crowd of people, something which would appeal alike to the lettered and the ignorant. This consideration absorbed me, and I was perplexed by the problem of fulfilling all these needs.

'One night, on returning to my quarters at a very late hour, I composed and wrote out the tune of the hymn on the spur of the moment. Next day I went to Joukovsky* and asked him to suggest some words; but he was by no means musical and had a lot of trouble in adapting them to the minor close of the first cadence. Subsequently I was able to inform Count Benkendorff that the hymn was ready. The Emperor expressed a desire to hear it, and came on November 23, 1833, to the Court Chapel, accompanied by the Empress and the Grand Duke Michael. I had assembled the whole choir, and it was supported by

two orchestras.

'The Sovereign ordered the hymn to be played over several times, and asked to hear it sung without accompaniment; then he had it played by each orchestra in turn, and finally with the united body of performers. His Majesty then said to me in French: "It is really superb," and there and then he commanded Count Benkendorff to inform the Minister of War that the hymn was adopted for the Army. This measure was officially ratified on December 4, 1833. The first public performance took place on December 11, at the Grand Theatre, Moscow. The Emperor was apparently desirous of submitting my work for the approval of the Moscow public. On December 25, the hymn resounded through the halls of the Winter Palace on the occasion of the blessing of the Colours.

'The Sovereign graciously presented to me a gold snuff-box adorned with diamonds, as a mark of the Imperial pleasure, and also ordered that the words "God protect the Tsar" † should be added to the

armorial bearings of the Lvov family.'

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE HISTORY OF MUSIC PRINTING IN THE LIBRARY OF MR. ALFRED H. LITTLETON.

BY JEFFREY PULVER.

(Continued from January number, page 22.)

Sebastian Virdung, one of the chief sources of our knowledge of the 15th- and 16th-century musical instruments, is represented in the Littleton collection by his very rare 'Musica getutscht und aussgezogen durch Sebastianum.' This small oblong quarto, without the printer's name, produced at Bâle in 1511, is perhaps one of the most interesting and entertaining books that could fall into the hands of the musical historian. In naive fashion the author, following the then frequent custom of writing treatises in dialogue, describes the instruments then in use, and gives hints on how they were to be manipulated. Some of his remarks are exceedingly valuable to us to-day, and not a few of his personal views are very quaint and

often amusing. The book is profusely illustrated, and Mr. Littleton's catalogue reproduces three of the cata. The work is not contained in the British Museum. It will perhaps be best to mention at this point the 'Musurgia seu praxis Musicae,' by Ottomar Lusching (Nachtgall or Nachtigall), printed by Joannes Schot, of Strasburg, in 1536. This book is a Latin translation of Virdung's work, just mentioned, and contains the same pictures.

Another writer to use Virdung's book was Marin He re-issued the earlier work, in German Agricola. verse, under the title, 'Musica instrumentalis deudsch &c.,' in 1529 (Georg Rhaw, Wittenberg), and also copied the illustrations; these are identical, although reversed in copying. At least as much interest attaches to the writer of this work as to Virdung, for between them they are, as Riemann justly remarks the chief authors to whom we have to go for the history of the instruments of the time. properly Sohr or Sore (probably after his birthplace Sorau), was born in 1486 and died in June, 1556. issue just mentioned was the first of some half-doze Mr. Littleton's copy (1529) is complete, editions. while the British Museum possesses but the last dozen pages of this edition. The national storehouse however, has a copy of the edition of 1532. appeared at Leipsic in 1896. To correct a slight emprevalent in some quarters, it should be noted that the colophon of Agricola's work is dated 1529, while the Preface is 'Geben zu Magdeburg am Tage

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France contributes a 'Missale secundum usum Romane Ecclesie,' a folio printed by Mathias Husz Lyons in 1485; only the stave is printed, and the music was to be filled in by hand. Towards the middle of the 16th century Pierre Attaignant became the most popular printer in France, and his work from type is quite good, though not in any way to be compared with the productions of Petrucci at Venice so much earlier. Attaignant is represented in Mr. Littleton's collection by Claude Gervaise's 'Quan Liure contenant XXVI. Chansons, &c.' (Paris, 1590) executed from type at one printing. Another work from a Lyons press is that of Pierre Davantes-'Pseaumes de David'-in French verse (1560). This book is especially interesting, as it exhibits the system of numerical notation which Davantes claimed to have invented. The press of Pierre Ballard, which got so busy in the time of the Lully opera, is represented by a very fine set of 'Airs,' edited by Gabriel Battalk and 'mis en Tablature de Luth.' The collection includes seven books of these airs, while the Britis Museum has eight; but two of the latter are from different editions, as a comparison of the dates prove Littleton copy, Book I., 1612; Books II., III., as V., 1614; Book IV., 1613; Book VI., 1615; Book VII., 1622; in the Museum copy, Book VII, dated 1617, and Book VIII. 1618.

The Netherlands can also show some interesting works to illustrate the history of music printing; is especially noteworthy are the 'Souter-Liedekens' which Dr. D. F. Scheurleer has such a fine collection' Mr. Littleton's copy of the famous Soute Liedekens, printed by Symon Cock, of Antwerp, 1540, is produced in two colours, red and blast and was actually the second book to appear in the Locuntries containing music printed from type. While the subject it will be well to note that the day given by some authors to this work is 1511, an emdue to a misreading of the 'MCCCCC ende XL' which the L (Gothic) looks very like an I. Further interesting Netherlands publications in the collection are the 'Nederlands' by Admi

^{*} A well-known Russian poet. † The first line of the anthem's text.

^{*} See Musical Times for August, 1914.

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Valerius (Haarlem, 1626), with music from type, and containing lute-tablature,—an entertaining volume of hymns and songs to popular tunes, such as French Bransles, French Courantes, 'English Daphne,' Morris-Dances, &c.—and the 'Amsterdamsche Pegasus,' printed by Paulus Aertsz van Ravesteyn (Amsterdam, 1627). Jan Janszoon Starter's 'Friesche Lust-Hof, &c.' (Amsterdam, 1634) is represented by its fifth edition; the first was published in 1621, the sixth was undated, and a reprint of the latter was issued in 1864. The British Museum does not possess a copy of this 1634 edition, which is enriched by some fine etched illustrations. The Elzevir press of Amsterdam, from which so many beautiful literary works were issued, contributes the 'Antiquae Musicae' of M. Meibomus (1652).

Turning now to England we are first confronted with that most interesting and scarce work of Englysshed by Ranulph Higden — 'Policronicon. Syr Johan de Trevysa'—a fine specimen of the work done by Wynkyn de Worde at Westminster in 1495. This contains 'the earliest known specimen of musical notation printed in England. In Caxton's edition of this work (1482) space is left blank for the notation to be filled in by hand.' There is only one specimen of music in this book, and that is used to illustrate a assage describing the consonances of Pythagoras. As frequently mentioned, the double-octave contains a note too much. The specimen in question is quoted by Grove (ed. 1913, iii. 325), and the whole page is reproduced in facsimile in Mr. Littleton's catalogue. The specimen was contrived by 'putting together the "quads." and "rules" used in his ordinary typographical work. Thus, by a practical application of the old adage "necessity is the mother of invention," Wynkyn de Worde really, though unconsciously, wynkyn de worde reany, though and say, the invented music-type printing; that is to say, the printing of the lines and notes at one impression.' In 1549 Robert Crowley printed 'The Psalter of David newly Translated into Englysh Metre . wherunto is added a note of four partes.
...' The work is very rare, 'only two other copies appear to be known.' In the following year

John Merbecke's epoch-making 'Booke of Common Praier noted' was issued from the press of Richard Grafton (London, 1550). It was produced

by two impressions, and the lines are continuous.

Quite apart from its typographical interest, this work is of great historical value, since it 'supplied a deficiency sure to have been felt throughout the country on the substitution of the English for the Lain office.' John Day (1561) produced an edition of Jan Utenhove's 'Hondert Psalmen Dauids' in Dutch rhymes, set to music printed from separate types. The work, thinks Rimbault, was 'printed for Dutch refugees.' The device of the printer, which occupies a page of the book, is reproduced in Mr. Littleton's catalogue, and contains the information Ghedruckt te Londen, bij Jan Daye . . . 21 Junii, John Ta John Ta John History. The same publisher was responsible in the following year for the issue of 'The Whole Booke of Psalmes collected into Englysh Metre by T. Starnhold, I. Hopkins, and others . . with a Short Introduction into the Science of Musicke,' Mr. Littleton's copy being one of the three examples now known to exist. The other two are in the British Museum and the John Rylands Library at Manchester. In 1563 John Day printed 'The Whole Psalmes in foure Partes, whiche may be song to al musicall instrumentes, set forth for the encrease of vertue: and abolishyng of other vayne and triffing ballades.' This was produced from type in one impression. The work consists of four separate parts (Medius, Contra Tenor, Tenor, and Bassus), and contains sixty-one psalms and settings of the

Creed, some prayers, and the Canticles. Similarly produced, and by the same printer, was the 'Mornyng and Euenyng prayer and Communion, &c.' (1565). The Littleton collection includes only the Secundus Contra-Tenor part (folio) of this, 'the earliest collection of Services and Anthems for the English Church.' The library possesses also John Day's 1565, 1567, and 1578 editions of 'The Whole Booke of Psalmes.' Interesting from a typographical point of view is 'Cantiones, quae ab argymento sacrae vocantvr, &c.,' by Tallis and Byrd, and printed by Thomas Vautrollier in 1575. This printer, enjoying the privileges which Queen Elizabeth's patent granted to the two composers afforded him, produced some excellent type printing, this work being a particularly fine specimen for the time. Thomas East, another very popular printer of the 16th century and assignee of William Byrd, contributes this composer's 'Psalmes, Sonets and Songs of sadnes and pietie, &c.' (1588); Nicolas Yonge's 'Mysica Transalpina,' a collected set of madrigals by various composers (1588); Byrd's 'Songs of Sundrie natures, some of grauitie, and others of myrth, fit for all companies and voyces, &c.' 1589 (slightly imperfect); Thomas Watson's 'First sett of Italian Madrigalls Englished, not to the sense of the originall dittie, but after the affection of the Noate. There are also heere inserted two excellent Madrigalls of Master William Byrds, composed after the Italian vaine, at the request of the sayd Thomas Watson' (1590); and Yonge's 'Second Booke of Madrigalles' ('Musica Transalpina,' 1597). The edition of the 'Whole Booke of Psalmes,' by Sternhold, Hopkins, and others, appearing in 1594, was from the press of John Windet (London), and this particular copy is especially interesting by being bound up 'with a Bible dated 1595, for King lames I., the Royal Arms stamped on the cover. Thomas Snodham gives two works to the collection: John Ward's 'First Set of English Madrigals, &c. (1613), containing an elegy on Prince Henry; and Robert Tailour's 'Sacred Hymns. Consisting of Fifti Select Psalms of David and others, Paraphrastically turned into English Verse' (1615); the latter has a viol and lute accompaniment in tablature. Thomas Ravenscroft's 'Whole Booke of Psalmes: with the Hymnes Evangelicall, And Songs Spiritvall, by 'sundry Authors,' was printed 'For the Company of Stationers' (London, 1621), and a reproduction of the title-page in facsimile is given in Mr. Littleton's catalogue. And so it would be possible to go on in chronological order, mentioning such works as Butler's Principles of Musick' (Haviland, London, 1636), the work of which genial old John Jenkins thought so highly; the brothers Lawes' 'Choice Psalmes' (James Young, 1648), the book for which John Milton wrote a complimentary sonnet, and to which Dr. Wilson, John Taylor, John Cobb, Simon Ives, John Jenkins, John Hilton, and others contributed Elegies 'to the memory of their much respected, esteemed, friend and fellow, William Lawes, servant to his Majesty'; the 1655 edition of 'Parthenia' (from engraved plates; the first edition dated 1611 was the first 'English collection of music thus printed'), engraved by William Hole and published by John Clarke; Playford's 'Introduction to the Skill of Musick' (edition 1658, W. Godbid; and fourth edition, 1664); Christopher Simpson's 'Division Violist' (Godbid for John Playford, 1659) from engraved plates and type; he same genial and interesting violist's 'Chelys, &c.,' or bi-lingual 'Division-Viol' (second edition, folio, 1667); Thomas Mace's 'Musick's Monument, &c.' (T. Ratcliffe & N. Thompson, London, 1676); and very many other productions of the 17th-century printing-press in

Enough has been said, I think, to show that these books, considered in order of publication, constitute an almost unbroken record of music printing; a series of works illustrating the history of an interesting and useful art that must have afforded unbounded delight to their possessor, and incalculable instruction to those permitted to examine them. Among the latter I have the good fortune to count myself, and I should be lacking in the most elementary principles of courtesy and gratitude if I were to close this slight account without acknowledging my indebtedness to the late Mr. Alfred Littleton for his permission to inspect this collection. I also desire to thank Mr. Henry King for his valuable assistance.

THE COPYRIGHT ACT, 1911. [1 & 2 Geo. 5 Ch. 46.]

We give below the chief provisions of this Act that affect the interests of composers and other owners of musical rights. The full text of the Act can be obtained from Wyman & Sons, Ltd. (Fetter Lane, London, E.C.), or through any bookseller at the price of 3d.

The Act is said to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Copyright and it is dated December 16, 1911. The matter is set out in three parts (Part I., Imperial Copyright, in twenty-eight sections; Part II., International Copyright, in two sections; and Part III., Supplemental Provisions, in seven sections).

The Act came into operation on July 1, 1912.

The following are extracts (clauses that do not affect music are omitted):

PART I.—IMPERIAL COPYRIGHT. RIGHTS.

I.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, copyright shall subsist throughout the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends for the term hereinafter mentioned in every original literary dramatic musical and artistic work. if—

- (a) In the case of a published work, the work was first published within such parts of His Majesty's dominions as aforesaid; and
- (b) In the case of an unpublished work, the author was at the date of the making of the work a British subject or resident within such parts of His Majesty's dominions as aforesaid;

but in no other works, except so far as the protection conferred by this Act is extended by Orders in Council thereunder relating to self-governing dominions to which this Act does not extend and to foreign countries.

- (2) For the purposes of this Act, 'copyright' means the sole right to produce or reproduce the work or any substantial part thereof in any material form whatsoever, to perform, or in the case of a lecture to deliver, the work or any substantial part thereof in public; if the work is unpublished, to publish the work or any substantial part thereof; and shall include the sole right,—
 - (a) To produce, reproduce, perform, or publish any translation of the work;

(b); (c); . . .

(d) In the case of a literary, dramatic, or musical work, to make any record, perforated roll, cinematograph film, or other contrivance by means of which the work may be mechanically performed or delivered.

and to authorize any such acts as aforesaid.

(3) For the purposes of this Act, publication, in relation to any work, means the issue of copies of the work to the public, and does not include the performance in public of a dramatic or musical work.

INFRINGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT.

2.—(1) Copyright in a work shall be deemed to be infringed by any person who, without the consent of the owner of the copyright, does anything the sole right to be which is by this Act conferred on the owner of the copyright: Provided that the following acts shall not constitute a infringement of copyright:—

(i.) Any fair dealing with any work for the purposes of private study, research, criticism, review, a

newspaper summary.

(ii.) to (vi) . . .

TERM OF COPYRIGHT.

3.—The term for which copyright shall subsist shall, except as otherwise expressly provided by this Act, be to life of the author and a period of fifty years after his death:

Provided that at any time after the expiration of twenty five years, or in the case of a work in which copyright subsists at the passing of this Act thirty years, from the death of the author of a published work, copyright in the work shall not be deemed to be infringed by the reproducing the work shall not be deemed to be infringed by the reproducing the work for sale if the person reproducing the work proves that he has given the prescribed notice in writing a his intention to reproduce the work, and that he has pain in the prescribed manner to, or for the benefit of, the owner of the copyright royalties in respect of all copies of the work sold by him calculated at the rate of ten per cent. on the price at which he publishes the work; and, for the purpose of this proviso, the Board of Trade may make regulation prescribing the mode in which notices are to be given, and the particulars to be given in such notices, and the mode time, and frequency of the payment of royalties, including [i] they think fit) regulations requiring payment in advance α otherwise securing the payment of royalties.

COMPULSORY LICENCES.

4.—If at any time after the death of the author of a literary, dramatic, or musical work which has been published or performed in public a complaint is made to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council that the owner of the copyright in the work has refused to republish or to allow the republication of the work or has refused to allow the performance in public of the work, and that by reason of such refusal the work is withheld from the public, the owner of the copyright may be ordered to grant a licence to reproduce the work or perform the work in public, as the case may be, on such terms and subject to such conditions at the Judicial Committee may think fit.

PROVISIONS AS TO MECHANICAL INSTRUMENTS.

19.—(1) Copyright shall subsist in records, perforant rolls, and other contrivances by means of which sounds up to mechanically reproduced, in like manner as if such contrivances were musical works, but the term of copyright shall be fifty years from the making of the original plate from which the contrivance was directly or indirectly derived, and the person who was the owner of such original plate at the time when such plate was made shall be deemed to be the author of the work, and, where such owner is a body corporate, the body corporate shall be deemed for the purposes of this Act to reside within the parts of his Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends if it has established a place of business within such parts.

(2) It shall not be deemed to be an infringement of copyright in any musical work for any person to make within the parts of His Majesty's dominions, to which this Act extends records, perforated rolls, or other contrivances by means of which the work may be mechanically performed, if such person proves—

(a) That such contrivances have previously been main by, or with the consent or acquiescence of, in owner of the copyright in the work; and

(b) That he has given the prescribed notice of hintention to make the contrivances, and has pain the prescribed manner to, or for the benefit of the owner of the copyright in the work royalties is respect of all such contrivances sold by his calculated at the rate hereinafter mentioned.

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ly been man cence of, the and notice of in and has put the benefit of k royalties is sold by his tioned. (3) The rate at which such royalties as aforesaid are to be estulated shall—

- (a) In the case of contrivances sold within two years after the commencement of this Act by the person making the same, be two and one-half per cent.; and
- (b) In the case of contrivances sold as aforesaid after the expiration of that period, five per cent.

a the ordinary retail selling price of the contrivance calculated in the prescribed manner, so however that the roully payable in respect of a contrivance shall in no case less than a halfpenny for each separate musical work in which copyright subsists reproduced thereon, and, where the royalty calculated as aforesaid includes a fraction of a farthing, such fraction shall be reckoned as a farthing:

Provided that if at any time after the expiration of seven years from the commencement of this Act, it appears to the Board of Trade that such rate as aforesaid is no longer equitable, the Board of Trade may, after holding a public inquiry, make an order either decreasing or increasing that rate to such extent as under the circumstances may seem just, but any order so made shall be provisional only and shall not have any effect unless and until confirmed by Parliament; but, where an order revising the rate has been as made and confirmed, no further revision shall be made before the expiration of fourteen years from the date of the lat revision.

(c) Notwithstanding any assignment made before the passing of this Act of the copyright in a musical work, any rights conferred by this Act in respect of the making, or authorizing the making, of contrivances by means of which the work may be mechanically performed shall belong to the author or his legal personal representatives and not to the assignee, and the royalties aforesaid shall be payable to, and for the benefit of, the author of the work or his legal personal representatives.

EXISTING WORKS.

24.—(1) Where any person is immediately before the commencement of this Act entitled to any such right in any work as is specified in the first column of the First Schedule to this Act, or to any interest in such a right, he shall, as from that date, be entitled to the substituted right set forth in the second column of that schedule, or to the same interest in such a substituted right, and to no other right or interest, and such substituted right shall subsist for the term for which it would have subsisted if this Act had been in force at the date when the work was made and the work had been one entitled to copyright thereunder:

Provided that-

- (a) If the author of any work in which any such right as is specified in the first column of the First Schedule to this Act subsists at the commencement of this Act has, before that date, assigned the right or granted any interest therein for the whole term of the right, then at the date when, but for the passing of this Act, the right would have expired the substituted right conferred by this section shall, in the absence of express agreement, pass to the author of the work, and any interest therein created before the commencement of this Act and then subsisting shall determine; but the person who immediately before the date at which the right would so have expired was the owner of the right or interest shall be entitled at his option either—
 - (i.) On giving such notice as hereinafter mentioned, to an assignment of the right or the grant of a similar interest therein for the remainder of the term of the right for such consideration as, failing agreement, may be determined by arbitration: or

(ii.) Without any such assignment or grant, to continue to reproduce or perform the work in like manner as theretofore subject to the payment, if demanded by the author within three years after the date at which the right would have so expired, of such royalties to the author as, failing agreement, may be determined by arbitration, or, where the work is incorporated in a collective work and the owner of the right or interest is the proprietor of that collective work, without any such payment;

The notice above referred to must be given not more than one year nor less than six months before the date at which the right would have so expired, and must be sent by registered post to the author, or, if he cannot with reasonable diligence be found, advertised in the London Gazette and in two London newspapers.

APPLICATION TO BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

25.—(1) This Act, except such of the provisions thereof as are expressly restricted to the United Kingdom, shall extend throughout His Majesty's dominions: Provided that it shall not extend to a self-governing dominion unless declared by the Legislature of that dominion to be in force therein either without any modifications or additions, or with such modifications and additions relating exclusively to procedure and remedies, or necessary to adapt this Act to the circumstances of the dominion, as may be enacted by such Legislature.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

EXISTING RIGHTS.

Substituted Right.

assisting Rights	Substituted ragins
In the case of Musical	and Dramatic Works.
Both copyright and performing right.	Copyright as defined by this Act.
Copyright, but not perform- ing right.	Copyright as defined by this Act, except the sole right to perform the work or any substantial partthereof in public.
Performing right, but not copyright.	The sole right to perform the work in public, but none of the other rights comprised in copyright as defined by this Act.

PART II.

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.

POWER TO EXTEND ACT TO FOREIGN WORKS.

29.—(1) His Majesty may, by Order in Council, direct that this Act (except such parts, if any, thereof as may be specified in the Order) shall apply—

- (a) To works first published in a foreign country to which the Order relates, in like manner as if they were first published within the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends;
- (b) To literary, dramatic, musical, and artistic works, or any class thereof, the authors whereof were at the time of the making of the work subjects or citizens of a foreign country to which the Order relates, in like manner as if the authors were British subjects;
- (c) In respect of residence in a foreign country to which the Order relates, in like manner as if such residence were residence in the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends.

PART III. SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS.

'Performance' means any acoustic representation of a work and any visual representation of any dramatic action in a work, including such a representation made by means of any mechanical instrument;

'Delivery,' in relation to a lecture, includes delivery by means of any mechanical instrument;

'Plate' includes any stereotype or other plate, stone, block, mould, matrix, transfer, or negative used or intended to be used for printing or reproducing copies of any work, and any matrix or other appliance by which records, perforated rolls or other contrivances for the acoustic representation of the work are or are intended to be made.

Church and Organ Music.

THE COMPLEAT ORGANIST.

BY HARVEY GRACE.

(Continued from January number, page 26.)

XII. -OF HIS INSTRUMENT.

Musicus. Organicus.

Musicus.-Has it ever struck you as being odd that the instruments most sung by the poets are among the least satisfactory? Pegasus has rarely been hauled from his stable on behalf of the violin and pianoforte-two instruments as near perfection as can be. But he has had many a gallop while his ridergenerally ignorant of both music and instruments— has sung himself hoarse in praise of the harp and has sung himself hoarse in praise of the harp on organ. There is something to be said for the harp on the score of picturesqueness. It certainly beats all other instruments in an appeal to the eye. When the ear is concerned, however, a very few minutes of its tinkling is enough to satisfy. The organ has nothing in its appearance to commend it to the lover of the beautiful. You may deck it with carven wood, add gilded angels blowing something between a Bach trumpet and a post-horn, arrange dummy pipes in nice gradation, with other delights. But these things are not the instrument. They are merely trimmings. Behind them all is a monstrous collection of pipes and machinery. If there is a detached console, it looks for all the world like a harmonium afflicted with dropsy.

Organicus .- May I-

Musicus.—You may—later. What a ghastly compromise your organ is! A menagerie!—a collection of effects and devices many of which will not bear inquiring into-a gigantic box of mystery-the sausage of musical instruments! example, you have a stop called 'Vox humana.' Why, my dear fellow, if you or I or anybody else got up on our hind legs in public and emitted sounds like it, we should receive what I believe is known in the more plebeian houses of entertainment as 'the bird.' Then you have also a 'Voix celeste.' We can say nothing as to the correctness of the name, because none have heard a celestial voice-a fact which makes the choice of name even more absurd. You might as reasonably call a stop 'Voix de fée.' Fairies, however, being hopelessly pagan, can hardly look to be so honoured. Moreover, you generally get this 'celestial' effect by using two stops purposely out of tune with one another! Why not extend the idea to the choirstalls? You want to give your congregation a taste of celestial music. Very well. All you have to do is have odds and ends of half-a-dozen languages, and to turn on a couple of solo-boys, one of them singing many of the titles are absolute misnomers. For

slightly sharp. But you don't. The only effects of the kind in your choir are unrehearsed, and less to trouble when you next meet the culprix Then you have your mixtures—an abomination, if ever there was one. You take delicate harmonics and exaggerate them out of all proportion by making little tin whistles to sound them. Also you make one stop do duty under different names, using it on one manual under one name, and borrowing it for another manual and calling it something else. Your motley army of pipes is a fearful compromise in the matter of tuning I believe that if some of you organists heard a passage played in the pure scale you would find it objectionable forgetting that the fault is in your vitiated can Further, in a big modern organ, how rare it is to her passages for full organ sound like anything but a hopeless muddle! Old Haydn, had he lived to day need not have been at the pains to compose is extremely mild 'Representation of chaos.' He would have saved time, and been more convincing, had le written some rapid passage-work and directed it to be played full organ with all couplers.

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Organicus.-But-

Musicus.-Exactly! You are going to point out that the fault occasionally lies with the player This is true, I admit. It is also sometimes the fad of the composer, who writes 'Full organ' over many a passage that would be more effective with half the stops. For example, you are playing a rapid pedi solo. 'Full pedal organ,' says the composer. So you shoot out all your pedal stops, and start on your mid career. Now, your full pedal includes a 32-ft, a heavy booming 16-ft. open, and a hoarse 16-ft. red Your other pedal stops, and those on the manual played through your couplers, back you up loyally enough. But how many of the semiquavers do the bigger pipes of your heaviest pedal stops give? Listen carefully, and you will hear intermittent hoarse noise -spasmodic coughs from the underworld, as a some monster in pain. Why don't your player reserve these slow-speaking heavy stops for suitable passages? I admit their effectiveness when holding on some long, relentless pedal-point, or for delivering a grandly-stalking cantus firmus. What composer for the orchestra ever gave his tuba and bass-trombon rapid passages in unison with the bass strings? Even the 16-ft. tone of the strings is rarely called upon for a sprint, save for special effects. Do you suppose that Beethoven would have used the double-basses for the giving out of the fughetta subject in the Scherzo of the C minor Symphony if he had wished the passage to be clear and the effect purely musical Not a bit of it! Why do audiences smile at the elephantine capers of the basses at this point? Either Beethoven meant to make them smile with one of his rough jokes, or he made a miscalculation. I think w know our Beethoven well enough to decide which is the case. Yet you organists play pedal passagesnot quite so rapid as the Beethoven passage, I admit too quick for clear effect-with your most lumbering stops drawn, and seriously think the effect is satisfactory. Similarly, you play a *presto* passer on your full Great, with full Swell, coupled, which means that doubles and reeds are included. This pretty much as if an orchestral composer should direct all the strings, wood-wind, and brass to play a brillian cadenza in unison!

Organicus.-It seems to me-

Musicus.-Let me edge in a word or two! Is then anything in musical terminology more absurd that your haphazard collection of stop-names? You

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point ou the player. es the fault over many th half the rapid pedal er. So you n your mad a 32-ft, a 16-ft. reed. e manuals up loyally ers do the

arse noises orld, as d ur players or suitable en holding delivering mposer for s-trombone gs? Even ed upon for u suppose

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passagese, I admit your mos the effect to passage led, which ould direct a brillian

! Is there surd tha es? nages, and ners. For

instance, the stop that you call Horn, and with which some of you play passages in transcriptions that are in the original played by the horn of the orchestra, is not at all like the real thing. Some of your flue stops can be used as very fair imitations of the orchestral horn, so of course you call them various kinds of diapasons. Your oboe is merely a milder form of your so-called horn, and is not a bit like the orchestral one. The stop that goes nearest to giving us the real 'tang' of an oboe is usually what you call Gamba-which of course is a name borrowed from the old string family. The piccolo of the orchestra sounds an octave higher than its big brother the flute. Your corresponding stop you call a Flute 4-ft., and your piccolo sounds 1200 octaves higher than the real fute. Perhaps as a result of our present (possibly feeting) preference for English things, including language, we may find the organ specification of the future couched in our own tongue. I amused myself the other day by drawing up a list of stops in your usual linguistic muddle (for instance, you frequently find Flöte, Flauto, and Flute in the same specification!), afterwards giving a literal English version.

Geigen. Clarabella. Hohl-flöte. Dulciana. Sesquialtera. Flauto traverso. Lieblich Gedacht. Vox humana. Unda maris. Bourdon. Rohrflöte. Voix celestes. Hautboy. Lieblich Bourdon. Viola da Gamba.

Gemshorn. Waldflöte. Quint. Contra Gamba. Tuba mirabilis. Gedackt. Salicet. Suabe Flöte. Flautina. Contra fagotto. Vox Angelica. Cor de nuit. Piccolo. Tibia plena.

How many of our builders dare use these titles in a tongue understanded of the people? Here they are, in their proper order :

Fiddle. Clear-beautiful. Hollow flute. Sweet. Whole and half another (!) Cross flute. Lovely closed. Human voice. Wave of the sea. Burden. Reed flute. Celestial voice. Highwood.

Lovely burden.

Knee violin.

Chamois horn. Wood flute. Fifth. Double knee. Wonderful trumpet. Closed. Little willow. Swabian flute. Little flute. Double faggot. Angelic voice. Night horn. Little. Full bone.

There's a medley for you! And of all of them the funniest is perhaps your 'Unda Maris.' Where was your sense of humour when you called your ndiculous trembling effect 'Wave of the sea'? Wave in a teacup' would be nearer the mark!

However, leaving this amusing side of your alleged musical instrument, what of it as regards dynamics? To begin with, you have no means of obtaining accent. I laugh when I see composers of organ music peppering their pages with sforzando marks. And, mind you, they don't merely mean a touch on the swell-pedal (of which monstrosity I shall have somewhat to say anon). This is proved by the fact that such marks often occur when both feet are engaged in pedalling. Moreover, we often meet with an accent mark over one note, played on the same manual as others not so marked. How can it be done?

Organicus.-We-

Musicus.-Yes, I know how you organists fondly imagine you get over the difficulty. You think that by lengthening your accented notes, and taking a bit off the less important ones, you give us a satisfactory The method is fairly successful in passages where the rate of movement is slow, but how when it is rapid? Compare your performance of such a phrase as:

with that of a violinist or pianist. Not only can you give no real accent; you cannot obtain a crescendo. You may thrust out a hoof and put in action some more or less clumsy mechanism by means of which you open some shutters, and let out more soundwhich is not the same thing at all. A good crescendo by a voice or any other wind instrument-any wind instrument, that is, but yours-gives the hearer not only more sound, but an impression of growing intensity as well. The motive power—air—is under the control of the performer, and the pressure can be varied. But you have no control over your wind supply, and your alleged crescendo by means of opening the swell is a poor thing because it is so obviously a cheap 'fake.' When you build your organ you intern what is often nowadays the finest part of your instrument in a huge wooden box. You make it as soundproof as you can, and when the composer demands a crescendo you dole out the noise. Even then, with all your care, your swell doesn't play the game, for the first inch or so of opening the shutters produces as much effect as all the other inches together, so you have 'shot your bolt' too early to get any prolonged cumulative effect. Your diminuendo is of course as great a failure. Just as you have to prepare for your *crescendo* by entombing half your organ, so in playing you have to get ready for your diminuendo by opening your swell.

Organicus.—But—

Musicus.-That's a delusion. You were about to argue that you can get your increase and decrease of tone by means of stops. I admit that by drawing or pushing in stops you make more or less noise, but the sound comes on in chunks, and goes off in the same way. Even the German 'Rollschweller' is only a modified success, though it is sufficiently good to deserve more general adoption in this country. course when you play on your Great or Choir alone your tone is absolutely fixed and level-and the joke is that some of you pretend to like it! Would you like a voice or a pianoforte or any other instrument to possess the same virtue? Besides, if it is a virtue in your Great and Choir, why make your Swell vicious by enclosing it? Then your tremulant! You think you can reproduce the almost imperceptible wave which a good voice discovers in moments of emotion, and you set about this impossible task by creating a commotion in the swell-box with a fan! My dear fellow, when I sing I can get a better tremulant than that

by playing five-finger exercises on my Adam's apple! What an instrument! Apply some of its methods to other branches of executive music—the choral, for example. Behold in your mind's eye the Royal Choral Society. Before they commence to sing, the members draw on a diver's helmet. Why? They members draw on a diver's helmet. Why? They must prepare for crescendos by enclosing the sound. They must be able to see the conductor, so obviously a diver's helmet is the only wear. A crescendo is demanded, Sir Frederick signifying the same in the usual manner. Two thousand little trap-doors open at the top of as many helmets, and a thrilling effect is the result. Observe, too, that when the sound goes

out the air comes in, and the choir goes on its way refreshed and rejoicing. (Over what happened on one occasion when a thoughtless composer demanded six consecutive pages of *pianissimo* singing let us draw a veil. In vain did Sir Frederick 'Sh-sh-sh!'—some unfortunate member was constantly coming to the surface for air!)

Organicus.-Look here, if you call this sort of

thing argument-

Musicus.-Keep your eye on the Royal Choral! crescendo lasting over several pages is desired. This is more than the helmet-shutters can manage. So the first step is to reduce the choir. This is done by silencing all the singers save the Montmorencys, De Veres, Marchbanks, and Chumleys. The remaining clans are added in accordance with the accession of strength required. For a slight addition the ffoulkes, Mortimers, or Standishes are sufficient. For a sudden burst the Jones's, Browns, or Robinsons are called on, while for the final crash (corresponding to your coupling of Solo to Great) the Smiths step into the breach, with what effect you may imagine. To see Sir Frederick haling these families in and setting them to work is one of the joys of London life. But see! a soloist rises, and begins to sing. There is a demand for emotional display in the second page of his song. He raises a superlatively manicured hand, and with a couple of fingers beats a light tattoo on his throat. The effect is magical. As the liquid, trembling notes steal over the vast hall, women silently weep, and strong men sniff and draw their sleeve across their Even the timpanist, a hard man not easily moved, especially when, as now, he has 72 bars rest to count, blows his nose with stifled ferocity, the tuba-player thereby incurring in next morning's Daily Semaphore a rebuke for a wrong entry.

Returning to the choir for a moment, you will of course understand that prolonged diminuendos are managed by inverting the crescendo arrangements. The Smiths are first to be dismissed, and finally the Chumleys and Marchbanks are left in sole possession.

Ridiculous? Of course it is. But these are your

own methods at the organ.

Finally—for I observe signs of impatience—can you wonder that decent composers refuse to touch your uncouth monster with a barge-pole? I was talking recently to one of the cleverest of our English composers, and asked him why he never wrote for the organ, although he played it. He replied, 'When I write for pianoforte I know what I am writing for, since one pianoforte is pretty much like another. I am also on safe ground in dealing with strings, and when I write for orchestra I say what instruments I require, and I know that they will be forthcoming. But when I write for the organ I may be writing for anything, since there is no standard. There is the Albert Hall organ on the one hand, and the box of whistles at a village church on the other. You may as well call a flea and an elephant by the same name, and ask a saddler to fit 'em both from the same pattern.'

Organicus.—Now, if you're quite finished, perhaps I may be permitted to say something on behalf of the defence. I fancy it will not be difficult to show that many of your objections have the slenderest of foundations. And—before I get to work—apropos the Anglicising of stop-names, since you object to our use of fragments of foreign tongues, I hope you will

practise what you preach.

Musicus.-How?

Organicus.—When next your pianoforte needs the tuner's attention, you will of course send him a card, asking him to come and tune your 'soft-loud!'

(To be continued.)

THE ORGAN IN THE CENTENARY HALL, BRESLAU.

BY ERNEST E. ADCOCK.

The inauguration of the giant organ in St. Michae's Church at Hamburg, and the publication of the gree Liverpool Cathedral scheme (Musical Times, January, 1913) caused no small stir and controversy in the organ-building world, and now we have to record the erection of an ere larger instrument in the 'Jahrhunderthalle' at Breslan The two first-named organs have 163 and 167 speaking-story respectively, but the Breslau organ boasts a total of 187.

The builders of the new organ are the well-known firm of

The builders of the new organ are the well-known firm of Wilhelm Sauer of Frankfort-on-Oder, the present propriets of which is Herr Paul Walcker, a son of Eberhard Friedrich Walcker, one of the founders of the famous Ludwigslag firm. Herr Walcker appears, therefore, to have a splendid opportunity of combining the excellence and traditions of the Sauer and Walcker houses. The following is a short list of the largest organs turned out by the Frankfort firm:

			S	peakin stops
Breslau	 Jahrhunderthalle			187
Berlin	 Cathedral			113
**	 Kaiser Wilhelm Memori	al Ch	nurch	94
Leipsic	 St. Nicholas's Church			94
Jena	 St. Michael's Church		000	94
Leipsic	 St. Thomas's Church		***	88
Wesel	 St. Willibrord's Church		***	80

The specification of the Centenary Hall organ was draw up by Herr Karl Straube, organist at St. Thomas's Churd, Leipsic, who holds the position once occupied by the immortal Bach. The building of the instrument possibly creates a record for rapidity of construction, for the work occupied only ten months. The order was placed in November, 1912. By March, 1913, the first portions were despatched to Breslau; and the inauguration of the completed organ took place on October 5.

The Hall which contains this huge instrument is an experience of the contains this huge instrument is an experience.

The Hall which contains this huge instrument is a amphitheatre capable of seating about 5,000 persons, and is said to be the largest auditorium in Germany that is se apart for music. It was erected to commemorate the defeat of Napoleon by the Nations at Leipsic in 1813.

The action of the organ is electric, the power for which is supplied by a motor and accumulating battery, which ar from the workshops of P. Hardeger & Co., of Berlin. Wind is supplied to the main organ by an electric motor of 12 H.P. and to the Echo organ by one of 1½ H.P. Both of these were installed by Pollrich & Co., of Leipsic—a firm which apparently does a great deal of this class of work.

The Echo Organ (Fernwerk) is played from Manual V, and is placed in an elevated position at a distance of 80 metres (about 260 ft.) from the main organ. The cable which connects it with the console, however, is 360 metres (1,180 ft.) in length. The Echo Organ, it will be observed, possesses 31 speaking stops, 23 of which are assigned to the manual, and eight to an independent pedal. It is therefore a complete organ in itself.

It should also be noted that all the stops of Manual IV. are borrowed upon either Manual I. or Manual II.; so that although there appear to be 200 speaking-stops in the organ

there are in reality only 187.

As will be seen from the illustration, the case is exceedingly plain, and one is forced to express the opinion that the authorities would have been better advised to have most their organ of smaller dimensions, and thus have had sufficient funds to provide a more artistic exterior. Had the front only been relieved by a judicious mixture of semicircular and V-shaped towers of pipes, much would have been gained in dignity. As it is, owing to the almost uniform length of the front pipes, and the deadly did flatness of the centre, the case does not present an imposing appearance. There is a good deal of truth in the saying that the eye can assist the ear, or at least the reverse is true that what troubles the eye may also trouble the ear.

HALL

t. Michael's f the great nuary, 1913), gan-building of an even at Breslan eaking-stops of 187. nown firm of nt proprietor ard Friedrich Ludwigsburg re a splendid litions of the short list of

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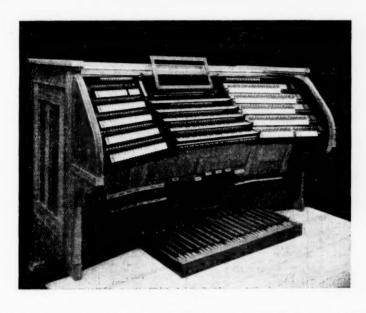
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Manual IV. I.; so that the organ, exceedingly on that the

have made have had Had the re of semivould have the almost eadly doll n imposing saying that is true that



modern German organs, stop-keys are used instead of draw-For those who are fond of figures a list of the console fittings is here given :

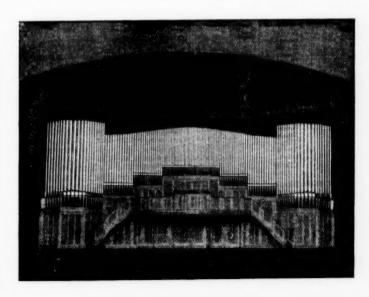
203 (white). 26 (black, at top of console). .. 155 30

The free combination pistons are to be found in a double now above the white stop-keys on both sides of the console, and in addition to these there are, of course, the ordinary pittons below the manuals, as well as the composition pedals. Mixtures are of 3 to 5 ranks, 7 to 9 ranks, &c., &c.

The illustration of the console shows that, as is usual in | The stops of Manuals II., III., IV. and V. are all placed in swell-boxes, but apparently none of the Pedal pipes are enclosed except those belonging to Manual V.

For purposes of comparison a short table is appended, so that readers may draw their own conclusions as to the power, size, &c., of the Breslau, Liverpool, and Hamburg organs:

	No. of Speaking Stops.	Pipes.	Reed Stops.	Ranks of Mixture,	Pipes in Mixture Ranks.	Highest Wind Pressure.
Breslau	187	15,133	35	C. 100*	5,754	8-in.
Liverpool	167	10,567	52	37	2,025	50-in.
Hamburg	163	12,173	29	c.65*	4,022	71-in.



		SPE	CIF	ICATION.					1
		MAN	mar. I	[(42 stops.)					
			Feet.	1			1	Feet.	1
Prinzipal	**	**	16	Violini	0 0	0 0	0.0	4	1
Cadackt	* *	**	10	Cadachtan	ine		0.0	53	1
Prinzinal	**	**	16	Violini Viol d'am Gedecktqu Quinte †*Pikkolo Oktave Rauschqui Progressiv	mice			28	1
Geigenprinzipal			8	†*Pikkolo				2	1
Prinzipal Amabi	le	**	8	Oktave	**		**	2	ı
Viola di Gamba		0.0	8	Rauschqui	inte		of ar	id 2	1
Stentorgamba				Progressiv Gross Cym Scharf	hal	3 80 4 1	ranks.		1
Donnelflöte	0 -		2	Scharf	wei	5 10 0	9.0		1
Flûte harmoniau	16	**	8	Mixtur		2 10 4	99		1
Flauto dolce			8	Mixtur		4 to 5	20		ŀ
Spitzflöte	**	**	8	Gross-Mix	tur	7 10 9	85		
Gedeckt	0.0	0.0	8	Kornett	0.0	5	9.9		
Gemshorn	0.0	0.0	8	Posaune	100			16	1
*Gross Oktave		0.0	8	Passon	DHIS			8	1
Oktave			4	Trompete			**		1
Flûte Octaviante			4	†*Oboe			0.0	8	1
Gemshorn	0.0		4	†*Clairon				4	
Prinzipal (Majorbass Gedeckt Prinzipal Geigenprinzipal Prinzipal Amabi Viola di Gamba Stentorgamba Harmonika Loppelliöte Flüte harmonic Gedeckt Gemsborn Quintatön "Gross-Oktave Oktave Oktave Flüte Octaviante Gemsborn Rohriöte	0.0		4	Gross Cym Scharf Mixtur Mixtur Gross-Mix Kornett Posaune *Tuba mira Basson Trompete *Oboe *Clairon				4	
		MANU	AL I	I.—(40 stops.)					ì
			n a S Feet,	well-box.)				Sant	
Gamba Maior				Dolon			,	eet.	1
Gamba Major Quintatön	0.0		16	Quintatăn			• •	4	1
*Stentorprinzipal			8	†*Flûte Octa	viar	ite		4	
Prinzipal	1.0	**	8	Quinte					
Schalmei	**	**	8	Dolce Quintatón †*Flûte Octa Quinte Sesquialter	, 21	ranks			1
Viola	**	8.0	8					3	
Flûte Harmonia	***	0.0	8	Mixtur Kornett	0.0	3 1	ekilk3.		
Solofföte	40		8	*+Gross-Korr	nett	2 to 5	29		
Quintatôn			8	*†Gross-Korr Cymbel Scharf		3	99		1
Flauto dolce			8	Scharf		5	88		
Dulciana	**	9.6	8	t*Bombarde				16	
Geigenprinzipal		> +	8	Basson				16	
Bourdon	2.4	**	g	t*Bombarde Basson Posaune t*Trompete Cor Anglai Klarinette Clairon	0.0			8	
Harmonika			8	Cor Anglai	5		0.0	8	
Vox Angelica			8	Klarinette				8	
Oktave		* *	4	Clairon		4.1		4	
Jubalflöte	++	* 1	4	Glockenspi	el (notes	1		
Zartflöte	**	* *	4	Pizzicato fo	ir (i	lockens	ptel.		
tamba Major Quintation. *Stentorprinzipal Prinzipal Prinzipal Schalmei Viola *Stentorflöte. *Stentorflote. *Stentorflo		MANU	M. III	I(41 stops,)					St
				well-box.)					
		F	eet.	1			F	eet.	
Nachthorn	40	**	16	Flûte d'ame	our				
Salizional			100	Bifra Dulciana Gemshorn Flautino Sifflote Nassat Rauschquir		**	**	8	
Prinzipal	**	3.16	8 8	Dulciana	914			4	p
Geigenprinzipal	**	**	8	Flantino	**	* 1	* *	4 2	SI
Nachthorn			8	Sifflöte		**		1	C
Jubalflöte			8	Nassat				23	W
Quintaton		**	8	Rauschquir	ite	2.0	anks.		25
Spitzflöte			8	Harmonia a	iethi	eria 3	9.9		aı
Wienerstin	**		2	Harmonia a Kornett, Mixtur	* *	5	91.		It
Flûte d'Amour	* *	**	8	Scharf		4	9.9		
Gedeckt		4.4	8	Mixtur Scharf Cymbel Gross-Cym Fagott		3	55		bi
Gemshorn			8	Gross-Cym	bel	7	99		al
Salizional			8	Fagott		20		16	
Aeoline		**	8	Trompete h	arm	onique	**	8	th
Praestant	**	**	8	Oboe Klarinette Vox human Trompete	**	**	++	83 98	in
Nachthorn			4	Vox human	TR.			8	4 1
Rohrflöte				Trompete				4	C
Flötenprinzipal Geigenprinzipal Nachthorn Jubalflöre Quintatön Quintatön Violoncello Violoncello Wienerflöte Flöte d'Amour Gedeckt Gemshorn Saltzional Acoline Voix celeste Vox celeste Vachthorn Nachthorn Nachthorn Nachthorn Vox voiloni			4	Tremulant	to V	ox hun	ann.		th
	1	MANU	IL IA	(13 stops.)					al
				rell-box.)					pı
Majorha			eet.	Minney P.	-4-		F	ect.	CO
	**		15 8	*Gross-Korn *Bombarde	ett,	3 to 51	unks.	,4	th
Stentorgamba		**	8	*Tuba miral	ilie		**	8	th
Stentorflöte			8	WT				8	T
Oktave			8	. Oude				8	or
Flûte octaviante Pikkolo (2 ranks)	4.4	4.4	4	*Clarino	**		55	4	is
			2 1	1.14					E
	MA			cho.)—(23 stops.) rell-box.))				pr
			ent.				F	cet.	M
Dulciana			16				0.0	2	CO
Bourdon	* *	* *	16	Mixtur		3 12	inks,		
Prinzipal			8	Kornett	-	3 60 4	29		to
Hohlflöte Viola di Gamba	* *	X.4	8	Basstuba Tuba	* *	××	A-8	16	IC
Aeoline		**	8	Trompete	**	**	**	8	A
Voix cálesto			8	Basson				8	CO
Quintaton Flûte harmonique	* <		8	Klarinette Vox humana	* *	**	**	8	
		6.4	3					8	W

Tremulant to Vox humana. Clarine

Glockenspiel (25 notes).

Flauto dolce ..

		PE	DAL.	(33 stops.)				
		1	Feet.				1	-
Prinzipal		0.0	32	Dulziana				1
Kontraviolon		0.0	32	Quinte				- 1
Untersatz	0.0		32	Gross Raus	chqu	inte, 2	ranks	, A
*Kontrabass			16	*Oktave			**	٠.
Prinzipal			16	Spitzflöte				*
Violon			16	Fugara			**	*
Subbass	2.0		16	Sesquialter,	2 ra	nks.	**	*
Gemshorn			26	Oktave		**		
Harmonikabass			16	Kornett, 4	to s	ranks.		8
Lieblich Gedec	kt		16	Kontraposa				-
Ouintbass			108	Posaune				35
Prinzipal			8	Fagott				4
Oktavbass			8	Trompete			**	7
Violoncello	**		8	C			**	1
Gernshorn			8	Bassklarine	tte			ř
Flötenbass			8	Clairon			9.4	6
Gedecktbass			8				**	6

PEDAL TO ECHO ORGAN. - (8 stops.) (Enclosed.)

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				cet.				OUT.
Violon				16	Bassflöte	 		E
Subbass		4.0		16	Dolce	 **		8
Dolce	0.0			16	Trompete	 		8
Viola	0.0		0.0	8	Oktave	 	0.0	6
								4

COUPLERS, ETC.

Man. II. to Man. I.		Man. V. to Pedal
,, III. to ,, I.		,, V. Super
,, IV. to ,, I.		,, V. Sub
, V. to ,, 1.		,, IV. Super
III. to ,, II.		" IV. Sub
IV. to II.		,, III. Super
731 . 722		III to II Come
, V. to , III.		, III. to II. Sub
,, 1. to Pedal		, II. to I. Super
,, II. to Pedal		,, II. to I. Sub
,, III. to Pedal		Pedal super
,, IV. to Pedal	1	Rollschweller to Man. I., H., and III.

Compass—Manuals, 61 notes. Pedal, 32 notes with extra pipes & super-octave coupler.

On heavy wind.
 I By transmission from Manual IV.

Many combinations can be brought on by the composition pedals, and the fixed pistons between the manuals, but it mas suffice here to say that they provide p, mf, f, and tatic combinations for each department, and for the organ as a whole. Beside the above there are also such combination as Manual I. Flutes, Manual II. Reeds, &c., &c., and own and above these there are the 911 free combination pistons. It is also to be noted that many of the couplers can be brought on, not only by touching the black stop-keys, but also by pistons and composition pedals.

How long will the people of Breslau be allowed to enjoy

he very doubtful honour of possessing the largest orgun the world? Probably not for long; for the n the world? Probably not for long; for the megalomaniacs' (a favourite word of the late Mr. Thomas asson) in America apparently do not intend to allow hemselves to be beaten. Doubtless many readers at lready aware that the great St. Louis Exhibition organ was curchased by Mr. John Wanamaker, and placed in the ourt of his vast Philadelphia store. We are informed hat it is proposed to add forty-five stops to this instrument hus bringing the total number of speaking stops to 185 his was decided upon before the dimensions of the Breslat rgan were properly known, and a matter of a few more stop hardly likely to be a hindrance to still further enlargement oven so, unless more than 5,000 pipes are added to the resent total of Wanamaker's organ, its claim to be the targest will be disputed. Therefore one asks 'Cui bono?' lost people will agree that perfection of tone and onstruction, and a pleasing exterior, are far higher ideals be aimed at than mere size. Moreover, a total of about oo speaking stops seems ample, even for a concert organ greater number involves many useless duplications, and insequently money spent in that direction is sheer waste.

For information respecting the organ under notice, by writer is indebted to a profusely illustrated brochure entitled 'Die Riesen Orgel von Breslau,' published by the builder of the instrument. Brahms's 'Requiem' was sung by Bromley Choral Society at Bromley Parish Church on December 15, under the conductorship of Mr. Frederic Fertel. Accompaniment was supplied by a string orchestra, organ (Mr. P. S. Hodsoll), pianoforte (Mr. F. Wilkins), and drums. The soloists were Miss Dora Mason and Mr. Joseph Farrington.

Feet.

.. 1 inte, 2 ranks.

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Feet.

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Pedal per b per

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to Man. I.

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At Skelmorlie Parish Church on January 11 a recital in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund was given by Mr. Arthur S. Manfield (organ), Madame Verbrugghen (vocalist), and Mr. Henri Verbrugghen (violin), with Miss Ailie Cullen as accompanist. The chief organ work in the programme was Rach's Prelude and Fugue in B minor.

At the Church of Notre Dame de France, Leicester Square, London, during the Christmas services, a motet Chœur de Noel,' by the late Jean Neymarck, of Paris, was given for the first time. We understand that a Mass by the same composer is also to be given.

The following carols were sung, after the evening service on January 3, at Regent Square Presbyterian Church: 'Noel' (F. A. Docker), 'Morning dawns, the flocks are feeding' (Davan Wetton), 'Immanuel, Babe of Bethlehem' Allan Brown), and, with carillon accompaniment, 'Sweet Christmas Bells' (Stainer), 'Come, ye people, hasten near' (Wetton), and Bell Carol (Pearce). Mr. L. T. Ellis Webb sas at the organ, Mr. E. E. Withall at the carillon, and A Vignette. By Cyril B. Rootham. Mr. Allan Brown conducted.

Haydn's first Mass in B flat and Rossini's Stabat Mater were given at Salem Baptist Church, Porth, South Wales, on Christmas Day, 1914. Mr. Rhys Evans conducted, and a small orchestra, supported at the organ by Dr. T. D. Edwards, organist of Treharris Baptist Church, supplied accompaniment. The vocalists were Miss Blodwen Lloyd, Madame Winifred Lewis, Mr. Gwynne Davies, and Mr. Ivor

Part 1 of 'Messiah' and the two concluding choruses were sung by the choir at Halifax Place Chapel, Nottingham, on December 20, under the direction of Mr. E. M. Barber. The soloists were Miss Emmie Warner, Madame Ethel Parkin, Mr. J. Franklin Pearson, and Mr. Thomas Stoton. Mr. C. E. Blyton Dobson was at the organ.

ORGAN RECITALS.

Mr. Herbert Hodge, St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.—Fantasy Prelude, Charles Machherson.

Mt. Percy J. Fry, the Minster, Warminster—Sonata in D minor, J. Lemmens.

Mr. H. C. Tonking, Royal Albert Hall—Fantasia in F,

Mr. T. A. Aldridge, Harlesden Parish Church-Fantasia and Fugue, Brosig.

Mr. Allan Brown, the Leysian Hall, City Road—Phantasy on the National Anthems of the Allies, Pearce.

Mr. Henry Coleman, Guildhall, Londonderry—Toccata and Fugue in D minor, Back.

Ir. F. A. Mouré, University of Toronto-Fantaisie Polonaise, Novoviejski.

Mr. Claude A. Forster, St. John's Church, Forfar—Concert Overture in C major, Hollins.
Mr. Matthew Kingston, St. Magnus-the-Martyr, London Bridge—Capriccio, 'Fairyland,' Capocci.
Mr. Paul Rochard, St. Peter's Church, Loughborough—

Grand Chœur in D major, Guilmant.

Mr. J. A. Meale, Wesleyan Central Hall, Westminster-Overture in E minor and major, Morandi. Mr. J. W. Y. Bannard, Church of St. Bartholomew, Greens

Norton—Prelude and Fugue in D minor, Bach.

Mr. William H. Dawes, Nazeing Parish Church—Grand Chœur, No. 2, Hollins.

Mr. C. E. Blyton Dobson, Central Mission, Halifax Place,
Nortice of the Control of

Nottingham-Allegro vivace in D, Speer.

Mr. Allan Brown, Old Ford Wesleyan Mission, London-Grand Offertoire in D, Batiste

Mr. Herbert F. Ellingford, St. George's Hall, Liverpool-

Finale from C minor Sonata, Reubke.

Mr. W. Lynwood Farnam, Harvard Club, Boston— Chaconne and Fugue Trilogy with Choral, Op. 73,

Karg-Elert.

Mr. J. Charles Maclean, Tabernacle Chapel, Powell Street, Aberystwyth—Commemoration March, John E. West. Mr. Jesse A. Longfield, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Victoria, B.C.—Second Sonata, Mendelssohn.

Mr. Harbett Hedre St. Strehage, Walbyrok London—Marchage St. Strehage, Walbyrok London—Marchage St. Strehage, Malbyrok London—Marchage St. Strehage, Marchage St. Strehage, Malbyrok London—Marchage St. Strehage, Malbyrok London—Marchage St. Strehage Strehage Strehage St. Strehage Str

Mr. Herbert Hodge, St. Stephen's, Walbrook, London— Prelude and Fugue on the name 'Bach,' Lisset.

Mr. J. W. Aldridge, St. Stephen's, Seaton Delaval-Sonata on the 94th Psalm, Reubke.

Mr. G. Bernard Gilbert, Town Hall, Stratford—Sketch in F sharp minor, E. T. Chipp.

APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. William H. Evans, organist and choirmaster, All Saints' Church, Hampton-on-Thames. Mr. W. F. Jenkins, organist and choirmaster, North Finchley Baptist Church, London.

Reviews.

The Wake Feast. By Hamilton Harty. [Novello & Co., Ltd.]

Dr. Cyril Rootham again gives us an example of the best song-writing. In 'A Vignette' he makes himself one with the poet (Robert Bridges), and earns the rare praise that the poem loses nothing in the composer's hands. The lines 'Among the meadows lightly going, With worship and joy my heart o'erflowing,' express in ten couplets a single graceful thought; the composer finds a simple melodic phrase (it sneaks as do some folk-son melodies) to surgest in music. (it speaks as do some folk-song melodies) to suggest in music the simple faith that runs through the poet's words, and on this he builds a one-idea song-a simple psychological moment in music, where many composers would be tempted to make a little drama or a display of fine imagination, with the words as a mere framework. There is a gentle rise and fall of emotion, abundant modulation, and musicianly procedure, but the music never departs from its theme, or takes matters into its own hands. 'A Vignette' is not a momentous song, but it perfectly represents an ideal that composers so often forget in their zeal, or vanity-the perfect fitting of the verbal and musical pictures. The range of the song suits a low voice; the accompanist will meet with no

difficulty.

Mr. Hamilton Harty's 'The Wake Feast' (bearing the sub-title 'A young girl dead') has the same thoughtful quality. Here more emotional licence is permitted in the presence of tragedy (Alice Milligan's poem 'Man of the house, soft-hearted with your sorrow'), but the composer does not give way to frenzy. His music lends the right warmth and varying intensity to a young man's outburst of confession and sorrow. Mr. Harty shows the same care in his verbal accentuation. The song, in fact, is one of the best type, and will repay the attention of artists (baritone or best type, and will repay the attention of artists (baritone or contralto) who sing with brain as well as voice.

pilogue. By Harvey Grace. (Recital series of original compositions for the Organ, No. 46)

Festal Prelude. By Alec Rowley. Original Compositions for the Organ (New Series), No. 36.

The Latin Organist. Edited by Samuel Gregory Ould. Book II.

[Novello & Co., Ltd.]

Mr. Harvey Grace's 'Epilogue' is music worthy of the instrument for which it is written. It is a thoughtful, musicianly work that should appeal to organists ('compleat' or otherwise) and their hearers. Its seriousness is unbroken, but it does not tend to severity. The dignified phrases of the broad opening of the theme of the fugal section sound a human note which is intensified by some chromatic warmth The piece opens with two pages of wellin the harmonies. connected melody over a strongly moving bass. The fugal statement in A major boldly intrudes an E natural after a full close in D flat major. Its theme is taken from the opening music, and a fugal episode is used to lead back without a break to the resumption. A highly effective Coda is made by developing the principal phrases of the work as a choral-vorspiel accompaniment to 'St. Anne.' D for E in the twelfth bar of page 3 is a misprint that

should be self-evident.

Mr. Alec Rowley's 'Festal Prelude' is a very vigorous piece of music, abounding in bold diatonic passages, and with an effective mixture of chordal and scale work. The tuneful middle section is an excellent foil to the rugged main theme, which by the way is not the less festive for being in a minor key. The Prelude, which is only moderately difficult, would serve equally as a postlude or

'The Latin Organist' aims at supplying music suitable for performance in the Roman Church—music, that is, in the spirit of the Papal rescript issued in 1903. Book II. spirit of the Papal rescript issued in 1903. Book II. contains Bach's short Prelude on 'Tonus Peregrinus,' a Prelude on 'Et in terra pax' by that old worthy, Georg Böhm, a Meditation on 'Pange Lingua' by Dr. F. E. Gladstone, a solemn Fughetta on the intonation to the Creed by Dr. C. W. Pearce, and six short Processional verses on ' Pange Lingua,' by William Sewell. All the music is of excellent quality, and as the various themes are familiar to members of the Church of England, the book might well appeal to a wider public than the compiler had in view.

School of Velocity. For Pianoforte. By Charles Czerny, Op. 299. Edition Novello, No. 18.

Gradus ad Parnassum. For Pian Clementi. Edition Novello, No. 15. For Pianoforte. By Muzio

Etudes. For Pianoforte. By J. B. Cramer. Novello, No. 16.

[Novello & Co., Ltd.]

Not merely from a patriotic view will music-teachers welcome the opportune issue in a new English edition of three sets of famous Pianoforte Studies. The works are so clearly printed and excellently edited by Mr. Franklin Taylor that they should at once rank as the standard teaching edition. Taking them in the order of degree of difficulty we have first the ever-green School of Velocity ("Ecole de la Velocite"), by Czerny. Thirty Studies have been selected from the above, issued in one book, price 2s. 6d. complete, or in three separate books, price 1s. each. Next come twenty-four Studies selected from Clementi's celebrated 'Gradus ad Parnassum,' also in one volume, price 3s. net, or in four books, each 1s. we have Fifty-six selected Studies by J. B. Cramer, in one

volume, 4s. net, or in five books, each 1s. net.

It is a sign of the times that the titles and prices are given both in English and French, likewise the keys. has revised the fingering where necessary; but he appears mostly to have adhered to the original. This is wise; some of the fantastic alterations recently given in certain foreign editions may appeal to a few here and there; but probably the majority of teachers have not welcomed them. to say the Universal Fingering, 12345, has been retained; to publish English pianoforte music with the erroneously so-called 'English Fingering' would absolutely debar it from circulation in any other country whatsoever. This fact alone should suffice to make patriotic music-teachers fall in line with their co-workers all the world over. It only remains to add that the selection of Studies has been done very judiciously. No attempt has been done to grade them; they are given in their original order, omitting those which

are of least practical value.

Correspondence.

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TO THE EDITOR OF 'THE MUSICAL TIMES,' observe an article by Mr. Corder. I glance at the opening of it, and see that Mr. Corder is about to oblige the company with a song. 'I sing,' he says, 'The Teacher'. much as the shoemaker might say, 'I sing Leather'; and a few lines further on, 'I sing the Minor Composer'—much as the milkman might announce, 'I sing the Cow.' 'Ah!'
I said to myself, 'Mr. Corder is in a lyrical mood to day; let me listen intently and respectfully to this vocal fantage of his upon two original themes.' I listened: the performance was really a very good one. Now and then it is true, a pinched falsetto note crept in among the man chest tones of Mr. Corder; but then, who is perfect? I fancied I could see how the one or two less pleasant notes came to be there: the idea of A CRITIC had occurred to Mr. Corder, and reduced him to a condition that is known in the nursery, I believe, as 'temps.' To suggest 'critics' in Mr. Corder's hearing is like saying 'cats-s-s-s' in the neighbourhood of a terrier: it brings on a brain storm-bat the authoristic call an attack of emotional insense. what the pathologists call an attack of emotional insanity, But we all have our amiable little weaknesses, and none of us who like and admire Mr. Corder—and I have always been one of these-would look with any but an indulgent eye on this little weakness of his. So I listened admiringly to the end of the song. Just before the finish one or the phrases used by Mr. Corder seemed to have a familiar me for me. In another moment the dread truth dawned on me: Mr. Corder was quoting me, and the whole of this performance that I had been enjoying so much was a protest against my advice to a certain young composer, which advice Mr. Corder finds 'not particularly helpful'!

Then did the cup of my anguish overflow. said to myself in the bitterness of my spirit, 'What is them of my writing twelve columns or so to make it clear what I mean, if the only result of it all is to make Mr. Corder think I mean just the opposite? What is the use of being a black-hearted, blood-stained cynic if you are merely to be mistaken for an idealist dealing out the wrong prescription? 'Helpful' to the Minor Composer! Mon chapeau 'Helpful' to the Minor Composer! Mon chapea! Where did I say I wanted to be helpful to him? The whole subject of my open letter was to discourage him! (& Richter said to the young man who told him he had writtens and expense of putting a brass plate on my door with the words- Professor of Infanticide; Undesired and Undesimble Infants Executed with Promptitude and Despatch'; andlo! an agitated professional accoucheur comes along and tellsme, with tears in his kindly eyes, that strychnine isn't nearly such a helpful diet for babies as milk! But I am not in the milk business at present; I used to be, but I gave it me some time ago. I am in the strychnine business now. But why need Mr. Corder and I quarrel? Can't we wonk together? So long as he can gratify his humanitarian instincts by bringing superfluous infants into the world, and I can gratify my homicidal instincts by helping other critis ('expert coffin trimmers,' as I saw them styled in an American cinema picture the other day) to put them out of it, can't we both be happy?

Mr. Turner's letter on the subject of consecutive fifths is gallant effort to put a good face on a bad job, but I am afmil it will not do much to help that earnest young composer is whom my open letter was addressed. The problem is, how to know legitimate consecutive fifths from illegitimate ones The late Dr. Prout lays it down, for example, that 'consecutive fifths by simultaneous motion are not allowed between any two parts.' That is categorical enough. Equally categorical is the practice of composers, great and little who as Dr. Prout proceeds to show by quotations from Beethoven, Haydn, and Kullak, use consecutive perfet

fifths by simultaneous motion between any two parts jul when it suits them to do so.

How does Dr. Prout attempt to get out of this difficulty.

'These examples,' he says, 'are not for the student imitation; experience is required to understand when the may be properly introduced; but it is needful to mention them here for the sake of completeness. By beginners the prohibition of consecutive fifths must be strictly attended to Why, in the name of reason, if such a sequence occurs is

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the student as one of those quoted by Dr. Prout, should he cut out the fifths? If they sound well when a Kullak puts them on paper, how can they sound ill when put on paper by a young student who may have better music in him at sixteen than a Kullak at sixty? 'Experience,' says the pedagogue, 'is required to understand when they may be properly introduced.' Nothing of the kind. The only himg that makes any sensible musician think well or ill of consecutive fifths is how they sound—whether they talk sense or nonsense; and a student with a natural gift for talking sense in music might use fifths in a rational way from the beginning. What excuse would the pedagogue have for striking them out? If I had gone to Dr. Prout with an exercise containing the following passage it would have been blue-pencilled till it was hardly recognisable:

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Yet this is not an 'inexperienced' student's exercise; it is a quotation from Ravel's Sonatina, and as delicious a passage as anyone could wish to hear. Why is it all right, in spite of the text-books? Simply because it sounds all right-i.e., it talks sense. And that is the point of my omplaint against the text-books and the professors: they cannot, or will not, see that a young student with the root of the matter in him may intuitively have that 'experience' which Dr. Prout says is the only sure guide as to when to write consecutive fifths and when not to. 'Experience' mmply means good taste, a sure sense of fitness; and while same men have this from their birth, no teaching can give it to others. Consecutive fifths, like everything else, must be judged by their results. The pedagogical talk about the 'experience' of the 'great masters' is fudge. If the onsecutive fifths sound all right, it does not matter in the least whether they were written by a man of fifty or a boy of fifteen, by John Sebastian of Leipsic or John Willie of Liverpool. My original point was that so 'rales,' no teacher, can give the requisite taste, the mquisite sense of fitness, to a student who has not already git it by the grace of God.

Mr. Turner's attempted defence of teaching on this subject is, I venture to say, no defence at all. 'Bare onsecutive fifths,' he says, 'certainly sound objectionable in diatonic part-writing.' The answer to that is simply, 'They don't always.' It all depends on the idea that they are meant to express. Except to a pedant on the hunt for infractions of 'rules,' there is nothing in the least objectionable in the following passage of Beethoven:

Or this from Borodin's song, 'The sea queen' (Mr. Turner may say, of course, that here the writing is not wholly diatonic, but the general æsthetic problem is independent of considerations of this kind):



But when do Mr. Turner and his teachers permit consecutive fifths as unobjectionable? 'Whenever the progressions in the other part become exciting,' because then 'attention is distracted from the fifths.' But in the passage I have just quoted from Borodin, as in a hundred others that might be quoted, the composer has not the least desire that our attention should be 'distracted' from his fifths. On the contrary, he wants us to be fully conscious of them, for it is on them that the charm of the passage depends. And in these passages from the 'Pelleas' prelude of Debussy, where the fifths are as right as right can be, Mr. Turner must be made of very inflammable stuff indeed if he can get 'excited' over what is going on:



On the other hand, I shall be happy to write for Mr. Turner, if he would like me to do so, some passages containing any number of distracting things, but the fifths will not on that account be interesting or even tolerable.

will not on that account be interesting or even tolerable.

No, it is as I said; the 'rule' is a tyrant to little boys and girls, but hasn't a word to say for itself when a man kicks it out of the house. I can, however, give Mr. Turner a quite infallible test for knowing good consecutive fifths from bad ones. (As a rule I send this information only in return for twelve postage stamps; but I will give it free to Mr. Turner on condition that he doesn't tell anyone else.) It is a rule that I have discovered after years of research and fakir-like meditation. It runs thus—Consecutive fifths are right when the composer meant them, and wrong when he didn't. If a student accidentally wrote such a passage as the following, for example:



his teacher would pounce on him in a minute. It would be obviously wrong. But as Elgar has intentionally written it in his 'Carillon,' it is all right.

ERNEST NEWMAN.

CROATIAN MUSIC.

TO THE EDITOR OF 'THE MUSICAL TIMES.'

SIR,—The late Abbé Liszt, in his well-known book 'Des Bohémiens et de leur musique en Hongrie,' has made the bold statement that there was no such thing as a Hungarian national music, but only a music of gipsies. A writer in the October number of the Edinburgh Review, however, has gone several steps further, and made the still bolder assertion that all the music the world has been made familiar with under the name of 'Hungarian' is really Croatian, for the so-called Hungarian melodies and folk-songs are, generally speaking, Slavonic-Croatian in origin, and have merely been altered—not for the better—by Magyar plagiarists. The Magyars, we are told, have robbed Croatia, among other things, of her artistic reputation. Even Brahms and Liszt were not above pilfering from the

Southern Slavonic music, and Lehár has founded one of his best works—' Der Rastelbinder'—on Southern Slavonic airs. The gipsies of Hungary, popularly regarded as the guardians of Magyar music, have probably (?) most largely plundered from the Croatian folk-melodies and dances. Thus far the Edinburgh Reviewer, many passages in whose contribution show only too clearly that he is one of those authors who cannot write even about music, folk-lore—or, in fact, about

anything-without dragging in current politics.

To begin with, let us dismiss from the case, as lawyers would say, the three composers cited by him. Liszt, although born in a neighbourhood the population of which is thickly intermingled with Croatians, evidently did not know of the Croatian origin of the Hungarian folk-melodies as played by Magyar gipsies, or he would have assigned them to their real owners; and we know where Brahms obtained his knowledge of Hungarian music. Any biography of this composer will tell us that it was Ede Reményi—who, by the way, was not a gipsy violinist as some English writers will have it—who made him familiar with the melodies upon which his 'Hungarian Dances' were founded. Remenyi knew some of the original composers of these melodies, and they were certainly not Croatians. On the other hand, he informed the interviewer from the New York Herald (January 18, 1879) that Piece No. 5 in Brahms's collection was a Slavonic dancing air. And as regards Lehár, the Edinburgh Reviewer evidently does not know that a Rastelbinder is a Slovák wandering mender of broken pots, and that the first part of the operetta is taking place in a small village near Trenesény in Upper Hungary, right in the midst of a Slavonic population. To give the play a local colour, Lehár was of course obliged to introduce Slavonic music, and to brand him for this as an associate of pilferers is as reasonable as to blame Sullivan for introducing Japanese music into his 'Mikado.'

Those of your readers who are interested in the controversy raised by Liszt should read the pamphlet issued against his book by, say, August von Adelburg, a writer, well

known in his day, on Russian subjects.

Haydn, according to our Reviewer, was evidently not a pilferer but a Croatian, and his famous national hymn of Austria is neither more nor less than a drinking song of his own country people, a song especially sung by the Slavs round about Bistritz, wherever that may be. There are several places of that name in other parts of Hungary, but all far away from the region where Haydn had acted as Prince Eszterházy's Kapellmeister in the very centre of Croation colonies. Most of your readers will remember Dr. W. H. Hadow's book on this subject, which was published in London in 1897 under the title of 'A Croatian Composer,' in which the author tries to prove his point. But Haydn was commissioned to set the Austrian National Anthem in 1797, and it was only about eighty years afterwards that Dr. Kuhác, of Zágráb (Agram), set to work to collect and publish his great collection of South Slavonic In 1880, the year before the last part of these appeared, he issued a special pamphlet on Haydn's relation appeared, he issued a special pampinet on riayon's relation to these tunes which was translated for, and issued by, Dr. Hadow in English. But there is not the slightest doubt that Haydn was of German nationality, and the drinking song may be a faint echo of the anthem and not vice ver sal. Dr. Hadow airily brushes aside the resemblance of Telemann's 'Rondo' to Haydn's tune as nothing more than 'fortuitous' or as probably being referable to the same source, although the composer of the Rondo belonged to Hamburg, and we have no record of his ever having come in contact with Croatians unless they were the descendants of the notorious Trenck's whiskered pandurs. Such fortuitous resemblances, of course, can be found. Thus, for instance, the present writer heard in 1912, a gang of coolies, pushing a heavy railway wagon in Bombay docks, singing a tune which he had heard about thirty-five years before in Hungary, the words of the latter song being supposed to be a dialogue between an old Magyar gipsy woman and her love-sick daughter.

When attempting to decide whether a song is of

When attempting to decide whether a song is of Hungarian or Croatian origin, one must not lose sight of the fact that in the long wars against their common foe, the Turk, the two nationalities fought side by side for centuries, and that it is somewhat difficult to settle to-day the true

ownership of a tune.

The Edinburgh Reviewer further complains that little is known about Croatian music outside its own native county. Whose fault is that? Partly, we are told, of the old name composers, who unpatriotically have sunk their nationals in that of more powerful nations. Such things will happen, as we know, even in the British Isles, where native composers will publish dance music under assumed Polish names. We have also the authority of the Hungarian wine who wrote the preface to Adelung's pamphlet, that he kase of dozens of Magyar composers who had handed the compositions to gipsy bands, who then presented them is the public as their own works.

the public as their own works.

Both Hadow and the Edinburgh Reviewer (the Right Hon. W. F. Bailey) mention the fact that a school of Croatian music was founded at Zágráb under the direction of the most famous national musicians, and in 1846 the modern school suddenly awakened to the realisation of the beauty d'vatroslav Lisinski's Croatian opera 'Ljubovi Zlova'. Who were those most famous national musicians? The Western world does not know them, and even Lisinski's opera cannot be found in the British Museum Library; it is mentioned in Félix Clement and Pierre Larousse's 'Dictionnaire de

Opéras' (Paris, n. d.).

The Edinburgh Reviewer mentions other causes which have prevented Croatian music from becoming known in Western Europe. True Croatian music, we are told, i scarcely ever heard in its original purity and perfection beyond the frontiers of its native country-(is it heard at all? and there is considerable difficulty about transmitting this Slav music to paper exactly as it is sung or played, for it is based generally 'on ancient modes,' and the intervals came easily be modified by the truly musical ear (?); while again it possesses notes which it is impossible to reproduce in our notation. Consequently, without an intimate knowledge of the ancient modes, Croat-Slavonic melodies cannot be harmonized. Nil desperandum! Have not Liszt, Brahm, Lehár, and the Hungarian gipsies managed to accomplish something in that direction? All that is required now is it send red Croatian bands to Western Europe to out the blue Hungarian bands and make us familiar with their native music in its original purity. Gramophone records also would be welcome, as they could prepare the way until we receive the real article. In the meantime we shall have to content ourselves with the weak efforts in Dr. Hadow's book as with the Edinburgh Reviewer's wholly unsupported statements.-Yours faithfully,

LEWIS L. KROPF.

Wandsworth Common.

MUSIC AND NATIONALISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF 'THE MUSICAL TIMES.'

SIR,—In your issue of January 1, Mr. Ernest Newssa quotes a short letter I wrote to the Nation some time as you way of protest against some of his views on musul nationalism. In this letter I suggested that Stravinsky, originally strongly 'nationalist,' as in 'L'Oiseau de Feu'ail 'Pétrouchka,' had not been improved by the cosmopolita influences noticeable in his later works, 'Le Sacre de

Printemps' and 'Le Rossignol.'

Mr. Newman now tries to annihilate me by quoting Mr. Calvocoressi's statement that 'Stravinsky, . . . Russian born and Russian in spirit, . . is one of the youngest but also the best representatives of the actual Russian school But I should like to ask Mr. Newman in return whether Mr. Calvocoressi said this before or after 'Le Sacre & Printemps' and 'Le Rossignol' were written. I am writing away from books of reference during a few minutes snatched from work of quite another character, but I am very strongly of the opinion that Mr. Calvocoressi wrote thus of the eath not the late, Stravinsky. If so, Mr. Newman is quite unjustified in trying to make us, so to speak, cancel each other out.

FRANCIS TOYL

London, January 7, 1914.

(Continued on page 103.)

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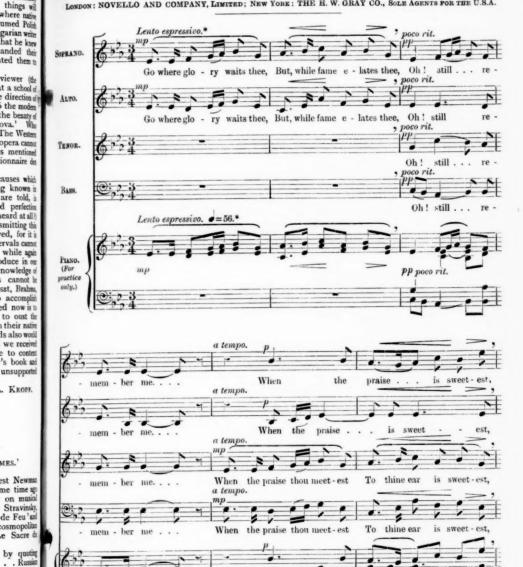
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Irish Melody, arranged as a Four-part Song by JOHN E. WEST.

LONDON: NOVELLO AND COMPANY, LIMITED; NEW YORK: THE H. W. GRAY CO., SOLE AGENTS FOR THE U.S.A.



* The time, generally, should be somewhat ad libitum, sufficiently so to give clearness to the phrasing and expression to the words.

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The Musical Times, No. 864.

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THE CONVENTIONS OF CHURCH MUSIC. TO THE EDITOR OF 'THE MUSICAL TIMES.'

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SIR,-Under the heading of 'The Compleat Organist,' Mr. Harvey Grace has made some very useful protests using certain bad habits of the average Church organist. the addition of the 7th to the tonic chord and things of his kind are only likely to offend the more highly suscepible ears. To my mind a far more objectionable and far nore common practice is the continued monotony of the Pedal Bourdon or Open Diapason in the lower registers. Pedal Bourdon of Open Diapason in the lower registers. The reason for this is probably that many organists give their right foot to the Swell Pedal directly they sit down, so that only their left foot is free and only the lower octave the pedals is heard. Then, again, not many organists accompanying hymns and chants avoid playing the has part on the manuals when at the same time they are playing it on the pedals, so producing a wholly unnecessary Also when the bass part passes out of the reach of the left foot it frequently gets played on the lower of the pedals. These abuses of the Pedal organ perer fail to produce a sort of 'wet blanket' result which ends to make the general effect sound flat.

Another groove into which many organists have fallen the continued use of the Swell to Great coupler. Thus an obvious means of contrast and relief as between the

The practices I have referred to are of course only found in the case of church organists in places where there is not mough money available to pay a trained musician. I have merely called attention to them because it seems to me that it is possible for any organist to avoid them without making my new demand upon technique.

Lastly, I would like to call attention to the attempts of illage and other voluntary choirs to sing hymns and chants in harmony while the congregation sing in unison. These stempts are not often successful, and it is really waste of ime for the choir to practise the alto, tenor, and bass parts. Union singing of hymns and chants, as suggested by Dr. Vaughan Williams in his Introduction to the 'English Hymnal, would be far better and much less discordant. ours, &c.,

Birmingham. November 4, 1914.

PSALM TUNES: THE MELODY IN THE TENOR. TO THE EDITOR OF 'THE MUSICAL TIMES.'

SIR,-I shall be obliged if you will allow me to assure Mr. Westerby that as a result of eight years' use of the psalm mes arranged in the above manner in the 'English Hymnal' I am convinced, first, that the congregation is in nowise confounded, but can and will stick to the melody this I know from the evidence of my own ears); secondly, the choir enjoys singing them (a small matter, perhaps, but I set it down); thirdly, their use is generally approved in the nave (at all events, I never heard anything but approval expressed). By the way, the reason congregations fail to sick to their part in Tallis's Festal responses is to be found

In regard to Mr. Westerby's objection to the arrangement when women's voices are in force, surely the effect is analogous to a frequent organ registration scheme: a solo in the tenor part of a manual with 8- and 4-ft. stops, with \$8. accompaniment. In cases where the fauxbourdon goes below the psalm tune, the effect is merely that of an extra alto part.—Yours, &c.,

in the fact of the theme being too indefinite. Indeed, in at

east one response the plainsong eludes search even on

HARVEY GRACE.

A BIOGRAPHY OF COLERIDGE-TAYLOR. TO THE EDITOR OF 'THE MUSICAL TIMES.'

SIR,-I am now within sight of the conclusion of the lemoir of Coleridge-Taylor, the writing of which I have

possess, in order that my work may be as complete a picture of the man as possible. Every care will of course be taken of such material, which will be returned promptly.

There is another matter even more important. It was a common habit of Coleridge-Taylor to lend his manuscripts to friends, and I am afraid he did not keep any written record of such loans. As a consequence several of his smaller compositions, songs, &c., and the score of a movement from a symphony, besides various pieces which figure in some of his programmes, have not been traced. Some of some of his programmes, have not been traced. Some of these without doubt he destroyed, as his self-criticism was exquisite and unrelenting; but this cannot possibly be the case with all of them, and perhaps your readers can assist Mrs. Coleridge-Taylor to recover these.

W. C. BERWICK SAYERS.

'Bindon,' 65, Avondale Road, Croydon.

Obituary.

It is announced from Vienna that CARL GOLDMARK, the composer of the popular opera 'Der Königin von Saba,' has composer of the popular opera. Der Konigin von Saba, has died, at the age of eighty-four. He was born, of a Jewish family, at Keszthaly, Hungary, showed early talent for the violin, and entered the Vienna Conservatoire, where he studied also composition and the pianoforte. In 1860 he definitely settled at Vienna as a teacher, and soon won recognition as a composer. The well-known 'Sakuntala' Overture was first performed at a Philharmonic Concert in 1865. 'Der Königin von Saba' appeared in 1875 after ten veers of slow creation and careful revision, and was 1865. 'Der Königin von Saba' appeared in 1875 alter ten years of slow creation and careful revision, and was successful from the first. Being based upon a Biblical story it has not yet been staged in England. Goldmark's later operas are 'Merlin,' 'Das Heimchen am Herd,' 'Die Kriegsgefangene,' 'Götz von Berlichingen,' and 'Der Fremdling,' He wrote two Violin concertos; a Symphony in E flat; six Orchestral overtures, of which 'Sakuntala and 'Im Frühling' are well known, other orchestral works including a Symphonic-poem, 'Zrinyi'; 'Fruhlingshymne' for alto solo, chorus and orchestra; choral songs; concerted chamber music; violin and pianoforte works, and songs. He was a strong supporter of Wagner, whose works he praised, early in the 'sixties, in his capacity of musical critic. Goldmark's music is characterized by an easy command of colour and effect, by abundant vitality, and by melodic interest.

By the death of Mr. WILLIAM MOODIE, which took by the death of Mr. WILLIAM MODDLE, which took place on January 17, Glasgow has lost her oldest and one of her most highly-respected musicians. Mr. Moodie was born in the Vale of Leven eighty-two years ago, and was entirely self-taught. In addition to holding the office of choirmaster in several leading city churches, he was in the early seventies Lecturer in Music at the Church of Scotland Training College and conductor of the St. George's Choral Union, a body which gave successful oratorio concerts. Latterly, he was one of the visiting singing-masters in the schools under the Glasgow and Govan Boards, from the duties of which he retired only a few years ago. He possessed a considerable gift for musical composition, and many of his part-songs have been popular for more than a generation. He was one of the most genial, warm-hearted and lovable of men, and his death breaks another of the few remaining links with the early days of music at Glasgow.

We regret also to record the following deaths:

H. LANE WILSON, on January 8, at the age of forty-four. He first claimed notice in the musical profession as accompanist to Madame Albani. As a singer he studied under Mr. Arthur Oswald and Sir Charles Santley, and soon won the regard of the public for his admirable baritone voice and his expressive manner. He also earned popularity as a song composer, and his arrangements of Old English melodies have had wide vogue. He was a brother of Miss Hilda Wilson, the well-known contralto.

mederaken at the request of his family; and I shall be pateful if you will allow me to ask, through your pages, for years organist of St Werbergh's Church, Derby. He was may further letters or material of his which your readers may

for thirty years music-master at the Diocesan Training College. Mr. Smith was successful as a composer of Church music and light secular music.

FREDERICK G. HICKSON, organist of Holy Trinity Church, Malvern, for eighteen years. He died on December 17, after a brief illness, at the age of forty-three, a man loved and respected by all who knew him.

THOMAS WICKS, chorister of Wells Cathedral, at the age of ninety-five.

At the moment of going to press we hear of the death of ERNST VON LENGYEL, to which fuller reference will be made in our next issue.

THE MUSIC IN WAR-TIME COMMITTEE.

In our November, 1914, issue pp. 645-6, we described the proposals of this influentially supported Committee. Briefly its aims were to find or create engagements for native professional performers whom the War had deprived of work, and to keep choral Societies going, as well as to give concerts in camps and hospitals and schools. The report of the operations of the Committee up to the end of 1914 has just been issued. It shows that notwithstanding restricted means, the Committee has been able to carry on a remarkable amount of good work. Up to the end of the year, 146 performers had been engaged at fifty-two concerts, and grants had been made to eight choral and orchestral Societies. All the management of the Society is honorary.

A very good idea of the manner in which the Committee carries on its mission may be gathered from the following extracts from the report (which can be obtained from Mr. J. E. Barkworth, hon. secretary of the Committee, at 13-14, Prince's Gate).

IN A BASE HOSPITAL.

'Will you give us a concert?' 'Of course we will,' I replied, 'the softest and sweetest ---'Oh, no you don't,' he interrupted vigorously, 'not at all, please : what we want is good rousing stuff with a chorus if possible.' For the wounded!' I gasped. 'Certainly. It may surprise you, but we have a gramophone in every ward. Drastic, eh? Well, it does them any amount of good.' And he proceeded to explain their clever Colonel's discovery, that complete quiet was by no means the most satisfactory form of rest cure for men suffering from shrapnel nerves. Why? Because the brain went on repeating the sound of bursting shells from force of habit. Unless this could be effaced in some from force of habit. Unless this could be effaced in some way, silence (intensifying it) was unendurable, and no one could long bear the strain of this constant mental recurrence without breaking down. Music, he found, effects obliteration best; hence much bodily nourishment, the gramophone between meals, and three concerts a week were his rule.

'When shall we come?' 'Thursday.' 'For how long?'

' Four-thirty till six.'

Day and time appointed, I set about finding a select troup, and in due course we arrived. The usual war weather prevailed, but the recreation room made that a matter of small moment, for it was warm and cosy. Our party, arriving early, found its bright green card-tables and comfortable arm-chairs still in place, but the good Corporal, anxious to know if everything was all right, asked us to postpone tea till we had set his mind at ease. This was A new pianoforte was waiting for us (the old Broadwood respectfully on the reserve), a large platform, and plants and flags everywhere to make it gay. Half-anhour later we came back to find everything ready. Soldiers were sitting everywhere. Chairs covered the space where the card-tables had been; benches, window-sills, stools, every nook and corner was furnished with a blue-clad figure waiting for the music to begin. A procession of many too badly wounded to be out of bed was forming up on wheeled stretchers in front, their pale, tired faces revealing sufferings so clearly that, smitten with anxiety lest our songs should after all prove too much for them, I turned again to our Corporal with a question. 'Ah, come on,' he said, 'don't worry about that. Just you watch them.' So we made ready and began.

The little Soprano went up first, and with the opening bars a subtle change passed over the room. The audience had guessed how she was going to sing from the look of her,

and found they were right. Gentle murmurs of plea grew into a crescendo of clapping as she finished, and be eyes drooped perhaps a little less. One or two poor fello stretched out full length, craned their heads to get a le view, and a nurse ran off to bring pillows to prop

Then our Baritone began a Somerset Folk-Song; and way through I heard someone say, 'Go and tell him it's good concert,' and presently the door opened to admitan figure garbed in a dressing gown, who tottered unsurances the floor to sink into the only arm-chair still available. We learned afterwards that he was an officer who had be under shrapnel since the beginning of the War-four mon and a week or two ago had come back a nervous was.

The usually restful silence of the Home chosen had be torture, but the music cure was doing its work well, sleep coming back to him by degrees. Soon after he can in others followed, till the hall was overflowing with peni Every doctor, orderly, and nurse who could be spared, lose in for a little while, and a low window was opened so to anyone in the garden could have his share too by standing

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One hero who had lost a leg clapped notwithstanding a joyously all the way through that I remarked upon it, at learned he was to be married next week. Thereupon a Baritone, who has a gift for such things, changed the real of his next song to fit the occasion, affording thereby me fine opportunity for chaff that its victim was thorough embarrassed before the end. Our Entertainer has by me a somewhat thoughtful face, and when he stepped forther said he would like a few quiet words with the men, the believing him a Truthful James, prepared to hear them as he they might. It is hard to say who enjoyed the fun me when it dawned that his innocent appearance was but a dis

for guile.

Six o'clock came, and we dutifully paused to be discharge but the Colonel looked at his men and then at us, and as 'Just a little more. It's doing them no end of good.' we gave it for another quarter of an hour, and then finish with a rag-time chorus, audible, I should say, atnever mind where. Reticence is always becoming, liby little those who had come in utterly we from pain had forgotten all about it, and were whisting calling for encores, stamping away with perhaps the one left, or a crutch, for all they were worth, and it needed effort to realise they were not hale and hearty men—if me eyes were turned away.

Perhaps the nicest tribute was from a young St. Goog who said of our bonny contralto as he passed out, 'I out have listened to her all day and all night.' And the to

nicest was the invitation to come again.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' WIVES.

Much is heard nowadays of the war fever, its danger a excitement-and those who know it best believe in treat it by inoculation with the milder excitement of music.

Anyone who has addressed 400 or 500 working girls at big League of Honour Meeting knows that war-excitence perhaps to their cost. The factory girl of big towns is strangely excitable being. In common with most per who badly need it, she abhors good advice, but she in music, and can bear even good advice when softened

She is no mean critic. She appreciates the different between second best and best, though she cannot also describe it-as, for instance, the girl who, though she li never heard of tone-colour, said it reminded her mother's kettle boiling.

An audience of such girls, united in sympathy by go music, is ready to hear sympathetically the good advice which in cold blood they might be less willing to listen.

If we are right, as surely we are, in giving good must working girls, we owe it even more to working wome especially those whose men-folk are gone out to fight.

A club for soldiers' wives, that boasts a membership of and a long waiting-list, is a veritable home of music, concert there is a very touching sight. The women and at all hours, for many are working late, but quietly the mo fills up, till not a seat is left.

nurs of plean ished, and have wo poor fellow to get a beis to prop the

Song; and his it tell him it is tell to admit and tered unstand it still available it who had be ar —four month in ervous wishosen had be work well, as on after hearing with people es spared, loate oppened so to

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music, and women ami ietly the ma To ensure quiet, and also to give the mothers a little rest, the babies are all being 'minded' in another room, and given the time of their small lives among toys from richer homes than their own.

And for their mothers an evening which might be sadly or even foolishly spent, passes in pure enjoyment.

There is an interval for refreshment, and then the music begins again—solos and recitations by good artists—choruses by the women. For they are themselves learning to sing in this admirable Club—under the auspices of a good professional teacher—who is glad enough 'in War-time' of the anwonted job.

The women love both singing and listening—it all helps to take them out of themselves,' and even the latest news from the Front, often anxious enough, is for the moment

United by a common sacrifice and a common interest, they make a splendid audience, and delight the singers who delight them.

CHORAL CAMP CONCERTS.

After some strenuous rehearsals we emerged from the sclusion of a practice room in the Temple into the glare of the White City. Dr. Walford Davies had drawn some fifty recruits chiefly from his own and other church choirs, had arranged for their use two or three dozen national and popular songs, and now the recruits were mobilised into an efficient expeditionary force. The vast hall of the White City would have embarrassed any less fully equipped concert party. At the back of the hall soldiers were playing vigorous games of ping-pong, others were boxing, some were absorbed in chess and draughts; besides there was a floating population whose interest we had to engage, but fifty voices trained to corporate action succeed where individuals fail. We came away feeling that we had made our mark and that the concert had been enjoyed by those who wanted it.

A little later we had another and a very different kind of success, at Fleet: instead of fifty Dr. Davies took only five singers with him (the chief point of his choir is that it can be used in large or small numbers as circumstances require, and the five could do at Fleet even more than fifty could do at the White City). A Corporal met us, and guided us along boggy ground to the tent where the concert was to take place. We started with three national anthems—English, French, and Russian; then came the policeman'ssong from 'Pinafore.' The soldiers immediately seized on the chorus, and after that the concert became a joyous sing-song with little distinction between performers and audience. Since then our experiences have been many, and at some concerts we have had the help of lady singers engaged by the Committee.

On December 12 we went to Aldershot, and after the concert joined in a hymn at Prayers in which the men sang splendidly. Our train back to town that night was nearly an hour late, so we filled up the waiting time by giving the whole programme of our choruses to three Scotsmen who were in the guard room at the railway station. One joined in the choruses with his eyes firmly closed, and rewarded Dr. Davies with two hot potatoes.

It is hard to say which are the most popular songs. 'The Bay of Biscay,' 'Ben Backstay' (with its chorus of 'With a chip, chop, cherry top'), 'Step Out,' and the 'Poacher' are always a success. In the last one, however, the Tommies always insist on substituting 'O it's nice to get up in the morning, but it's nicer to lie in bed' for the original chorus, 'It's my delight on a shining night.' But not only rousing songs are popular, 'Breathe soft, ye winds' (Paxton) has proved an unfailing success every time we have sung it, and the strange pathos of some of the negro melodies of the Fisk Jubilee Singers appeals very strongly to the men. Often they come to the concert tired out by the day's hard drilling or a route march. Of course, then one must begin by keeping them awake; but once they are awakened there is no need to go on making a noise. At one concert quite recently the men seemed at first almost too tired to be interested; before the end we were able to sing the Jubilee song, 'Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, Lord,' to an audience who listened breathlessly to every note.

There is another side to the activities of the choir which the point under consideration—the position important to the scheme of the Committee. It is designed whether the chin-rest is essential thereto.

to help choral societies by sending detachments of singers to take part in concerts which are not created by the emergency of war, but rather are being carried on under difficulties and in spite of the emergency. Up to the present we have sent out reinforcements to five such places: Battersea Town Hall, the Portman Rooms, the Hampstead Conservatoire, Tonbridge, and the Bishopsgate Institute. We hope to do more in this direction in the coming year, and three other Societies are to be visited shortly. The letters received from all the conductors of Societies to whom we have lent a hand show that this kind of work is helpful to the cause of Music in War-time.

SCHOOL CONCERTS.

There is one other class of audience—and that but little diminished by the War—to whom good concerts have proved highly acceptable, viz., girls and boys at school.

A cheerier sight cannot be imagined than one of our concerts in a big L.C.C. Secondary School. Anything from 100 to 500 girls, all—even the small ones in the front rows—as keen as possible; a fair number of parents and friends, and the teachers—tired, but never obscured by the daily round of teaching—whose enthusiasm for their art is specially delightful in its knowing appreciation of the best music. Can a more perfect audience be imagined?

Many of the schools even in London are so far from a concert hall that the pupils seldom hear any music except their own. And for the same reason it is possible in the country to give even greater pleasure than in London. In some cases, concert tours have been proposed to include several schools, and these give pleasure and friendship as well as work and generous remuneration to the artists who take part in them.

AN ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.

On December 15 Mrs. Julian Marshall took her orchestra, engaged for the occasion by means of a grant from the Committee, to give a concert to 8,000 Territorials at the White City. Mrs. Marshall writes: 'It was a huge success. A vast place, packed to overflowing with khaki; there must have been thousands of them. They had not the slightest difficulty in hearing us, and they were a magnificent audience, and most enthusiastic. They said they had never had anything like it. You helped greatly towards this result, so both orchestral players and soldiers are much indebted to your Committee.'

In January, the Committee decided to unite with a more comprehensive body, the Professional Classes War Relief Committee, and by agreement they now take up all the musical side of that Council's work.

Meller Committee, and by agreement they now take up in the musical side of that Council's work.

Money is sadly needed. We hope that some of our readers will be moved to assist or to get assistance by way of subscriptions. As will be evident, the appeal is a double one: the profession needs help, and the wounded in our hospitals need the inspiration and solace which music can give them. Mr. Barkworth will be glad to receive subscriptions at 13-14, Princes Gate. Sir Hubert Parry is the president of the Committee, and many other distinguished musicians are vice-presidents.

In this connection, it is due that mention should be made of the similar work being done under the auspices of Messrs, Broadwood and Mr. Isidore de Lara.

WHY ALL CHIN-RESTS SHOULD BE ABOLISHED.

By ARTHUR HARTMANN.

BY ARTHUR HARTMANN.

[We received this article from Mr. Hartmann, who is a well-known and able violinist, while he was at Paris. After the War broke out he went to New York, where, we believe, he is still residing.—Ed., M.T.]

In advancing this plea, I would rather try to present the most convincing logic than merely the request 'follow me.' Of late years, the indulgence in pads and cushions has

Of late years, the indulgence in pads and cushions has grown to such extent that at last it is seemingly necessary to invent a chin-rest which, with additional blocks, could be made to accommodate the neck of a giraffe, if need be.

made to accommodate the neck of a giratic, it need be.
Furthermore, we now see advertisements of chin-rests 'which enable the player to hold the violin in any position desired.' Desired—but not desirable. This is precisely the point under consideration—the position of the violin and whether the chin-rest is essential thereto.

Originally the violin was held on the lower right-hand curve of its body and not on its left, as to-day. violins of the 16th to the 19th centuries, having been much played, show the marks of beards or perspiration in

the right-hand corner.

Precisely when the chin-rest was first introduced I am unable to say, though I am fairly certain that it was not prior to Ludwig Spohr's advent (1784-1859); yet it is none the less certain that the reason for it was primarily to preserve the varnish of the violin and not as a sort of 'pulley' which helped the player into the positions.

True that in the days of Corelli violin technique had not

progressed beyond the third position, and a violin-chart of those days must have presented very much what an antique Atlas would show, the undiscovered parts being represented by headless men and fantastic images. When an explorer had the temerity to advance his little finger, and found it fell on a harmonic E, this note was added as belonging to the third position.

Unquestionably the first extension of the little finger from B to C (on the E string) occurred in the same way, and resulted in an abominable tradition which most violin teachers preserve to this day. 'Abominable,' for the simple reason that it has made pupils familiar with the first and third positions to the neglect of the second, which is the

rightful domain of C.

In about 1716, with the advent of Senaillé and the first French sonatists, we find explorations into the fifth and even the seventh positions-and all this was executed without the

aid of chin-rests!

Paganini, who is accorded the position of the world's premier violinist, never used a chin-rest, and Sarasate, a hardly less marvellous violinist, never used a pad, nor did it make any difference to him whether his violin carried a chin-He kept one on merely to preserve the beauty of the varnish, and for this purpose a small and low 'rest' is sufficient. Moreover, the best kind to adopt is a rest which in part covers the lower portion of the tail-piece, for any pressure-even the slightest-of the chin on the string-holder helps to untune the violin.

The player who uses cushions and large chin-rests is very much like the rider who, in the trot, raises himself in the saddle by means of the reins and not directly from the

knee-joints.

The violin should be held firmly (at times only) by the in and the shoulder. Hence violinists are likely to be chin and the shoulder. lop-sided, and should counteract this by ample deep breathing

and considerable gymnastics.

The violin should be held rather flatly, so as to allow the player a proper survey of the instrument; furthermore, so that the bow rests on the strings and is not upheld by the player's right arm; and finally, so that at certain times the violin may lie lightly on the collar-bone so as to allow full and free vibration of all its parts. Any and all tightness or rigidity smothers the freedom and carrying power of the tone, for the violin is after all nothing but a wonderful little Temple of Acoustics.

There is yet another reason why exaggerated chin-rests and pads should be avoided, because, with the aid of these, the violin assumes an extremely slanting position which has its effect on the fingers, making them come down flatly and not with the directness and strength they would have under

normal conditions.

To those who might advance the argument that for people with exceedingly long necks, pads, &c., are indispensable, I would answer with this—Do people with exceedingly long arms and hands play on violins the size of violas?

they have extra long bows made?

It was exactly this that gave Joachim his peculiarity of bowing-a too long arm. Thus, to preserve a straight line with the bridge and keep his right elbow from making sharp 'corners,' he was obliged, at a certain place of the bow, to go inward with his arm-a thing a number of theorists were only too ready to stamp as the 'Joachim bowing.

Mr. THOMAS FUSSELL writes on this question:

I find no 'convincing logic' in Mr. Hartmann's plea. I was brought up to play the violin, starting at the early age of four, and was never allowed a chin-rest until the age of fourteen, when Herr Poznanski (a Vieuxtemps

pupil) thought I was 'well able to ride without a saddle.' playing as I did several big works. He then permitted me to have a Sarasate chin-rest, which really pretends to protect the edge of the violin. At the age of twenty-two, when already at Leipsic, I awoke to the fact that my violin was really spoiled for want of a chin-rest. The chin-rest may be used as a 'sort of pulley' to get out of a position, but not to get into one, and that chiefly by players who keep their left hand thumb stiff.

Paganini and Sarasate, though getting extremely beautiful tones, never excelled in quantity; and holding a violin with the chin without a chin-rest most certainly does not permit the violinist to get full tone. This can easily be proved by putting one's fingers on and off the table of a violin when the bow is being drawn across the strings, various parts affecting various strings and

registers.

Violinists, if they hold the violin correctly, with or without chin-rests, need not become 'lop-sided,' as they should hold their instrument between chin and left collar-bone or chest, which gives the much to be desired

'somewhat flat position.'

In short, a pad (though I do not use one myself) is better than a cramped or 'lop-sided' position, and individuals are so differently formed that it is quite impossible to do more than give general big lines for the best way of holding a violin. Ysaye once justly remarked to me that one could 'play with the foot, so long that it sounds.'

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Mr. ALBERT SAMMONS writes:

What suits one does not always suit others, but I certainly think Mr. Hartmann must be alone when he says that all chin-rests should be abolished. Certainly some chin-rests look a little elaborate, but when one takes into consideration the high, stiff collars wom nowadays, it is very important that these big chin-rests should be used. Personally my idea is that the comfort of chin-rests accounts for half of the enormous modern advance in violin technique.

In the old days there were just a few who could 'dance about the violin'; now most orchestral players can do it with comparative ease.

Of course, there are and were exceptions; for instance, Paganini, whose hand could cover easily six or seven positions at the same time, did not need a big chinrest. Another exception was perhaps Sarasate, a man who possessed a round, short neck which enabled him to hold the violin as if in a vice with quite a small chinrest. From my own experience I should recommend a

big and comfortable chin-rest.

When I discarded my tall 2½-inch for 1½-inch collars, I noticed a great improvement in my playing of quick passages, and more still when I took to a big chin-rest that enabled me to change position without gripping

with the left hand.

Without a chin-rest one is obliged to support the violin a little with the left hand, which in moving from one position to another would cause a jerk. Also it is much less tiring to have a comfortable rest than to be gripping just the bare violin. Moreover, the average violin is less deep than a player's collar, and without a rest, the chin would soon become sore from the sharp edge of the I do not hold with pads under the violin, as they throw the violin into a high position, making bowing more difficult and more tiring.

OPERA AT BLACKPOOL.

(FROM OUR MANCHESTER REPRESENTATIVE.)

The visits of the itinerant opera companies to Manchester in the full tide of the city's winter music, make it impossible to do adequate justice to the work of such a body as the Or Rosa Company, and one welcomed its appearance at the Blackpool Opera House during Christmas and New Yer weeks for the opportunity thus afforded of experiencing work under more favourable conditions, and because of the abundant testimony afforded an outsider of the vitaling of the town's interest in music. One gathered that the was the Company's fourth consecutive visit to Blackpool it a saddle." n permitted pretends to twenty-two, et that my rest. The o get out of t chiefly by

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during the Christmas holidays, and so far from the War having an adverse effect upon the attendances, it seemed having an adverse effect upon the attenuances, it seemed upon all the occasions when your representative was accorded an opportunity of being present that the support was far in excess of what might not unreasonably have been expected. The fortnight's season embraced the production of ten operas of widely varied character, and displayed the Company's powers to considerable advantage as well vocally, histrionically, and scenically; if one must write with reservations as to the orchestra and chorus (who suffered cruelly from climatic conditions), it is only because the Denhof and Quinlan tours have made us more exacting. It is a pleasure to record that the playing under Messrs. Eugene Goossens and Van Noorden at Blackpool was far ahead of their achievement of, say, two years ago, and with the possible exception of the 'Tannhäuser' playing, which was rather 'matinée-ish,' much of the orchestral work was thoroughly enjoyable and seldom offended ears accustomed to the highest-class playing. If memory is not at fault, the Company has during the past year experienced a heavy loss in the departure of Miss Ina Hill, but would appear to have m invaluable recruit in Miss Dora Gibson, who explored most of the possibilities of both Aïda and Elizabeth (Tannhäuser). None can deny that the Carl Rosa Company is strong on the histrionic side; all its singers may not satisfy astidious ears, but one is never irritated by wooden, amateurish acting, and if one cannot always have the ideal blend of qualities, most opera-goers would probably excuse shortcomings in voice rather than in acting. The Company is fortunate at present in having an extremely able body of principals of level attainments, the memory recalling with some satisfaction the several performances of Messrs. Frank Clarke, Edward Davies, Arthur Winckworth, Frederick Clendon, Misses Doris Woodall, Dora Gibson, Beatrice Miranda, Dorothy Lawson-Tayler, and one must not forget the Three Genii in 'The Magic Flute.'

Particular attention would appear to have been bestowed m revivals of 'Aīda' and 'Merry Wives of Windsor,' the late Carl Rosa having undertaken the latter as long ago as 1878. With Miss Woodall and Mr. Winckworth in the cust, opera-goers were assured a merry evening. It may be recorded with much satisfaction that the performance of 'The Magic Flute' attained a higher plane of all-round excellence than any others of the operas which have come ander notice. Compressed to the three-hours limit, it is an its course with the requisite lightness and grace. Wolff-Ferrari's 'Jewels of the Madonna' grips one more and more as familiarity with the score is increased. The musical symbolism is uncommonly apt to the varied distance and the search metrics of the liberton is both situations, and the central motive of the libretto is both intelligible and in its development pursued with fine dramatic sureness of touch; the tendency towards tragic gloom is relieved by the brightness of the choral interludes and the entr'acte music. To those accustomed to the rather dingy, cramped conditions of the Manchester theatres used for opera, the bright spaciousness of the Blackpool Opera

House makes an especial appeal.

'THE IMMORTAL HOUR' AT BOURNEMOUTH. MR. RUTLAND BOUGHTON'S NEW WORK.

During the week ending January 9, four performances of Rutland Boughton's new music-drama, 'The Immortal Hour,' were given at Bournemouth. It is common knowledge that prior to the War Mr. Boughton's scheme for an Arthurian Festival Theatre at Glastonbury had made considerable headway, so much so that it was hoped to complete the preparations for a production on a large scale in August of ast year. A variety of circumstances, however, thwarted the foll realisation of these projects, and a less ambitious plan had to be substituted. Though disappointing to the promoters, it may be conjectured that it was to the unfulfilment of their long cherished desires that we owed the additional Bournemouth performances; for had the Glastonbury venture been carried out in its entirety there would hardly have been any occasion for performances elsewhere; so, in this sense, Glastonbury's loss has been Bournemouth's gain.

'The Immortal Hour' is an adaptation from the drama by Fiona Macleod (William Sharp), a legendary Irish story skill, and a large measure of the successful outcome must be

telling of the loves of Etain, a girl of the Færy Folk, and Eochaidh, the King, and of Etain's departure to the Land of Heart's Desire at the summons of Midir, prince of the Færy Folk: influencing the thoughts and deeds of these characters lurks Dalua, 'the Shadow that lies behind Life.' Whether there is any subtle mystic meaning beneath the fantasy itself it is impossible to decide, for undoubtedly these old legends can be read in many ways. It is enough, perhaps, that 'The Immortal Hour' is inherently poetical, and that Mr. Boughton's share of the work is worthy of the theme. In its mode of expression it is somewhat analogous to the Greek drama, particularly in its revelation of the thoughts and motives of the dramatis persona rather than the actions which these emotions beget; consequently the movement is slow, but this in itself is no disadvantage if it correspond with the composer's requirements. A pleasing feature in the work is the reliance which the composer has placed in his chorus. Although he seems to have dispensed for the time being with the 'living' or 'dancing scenery' which obtains so much prominence in his Arthurian music-drama, yet he still retains the chorus as a valuable and important element in the unfolding of the story: and in this he has done well, for thereby he allies himself with those who regard choral music as the legitimate precursor of an English national school. The music as a whole can be considered the best piece of work that Mr. Boughton has yet accomplished; it is entirely appropriate, the orchestra is never permitted to over-emphasise the situation, and there are many moments of real charm and beauty. Few, surely, can agree with the cognoscenti who have expressed the opinion that it has long periods of dulness. And were it so, what composer is able to maintain an equally exalted level throughout a lengthy work? Even the greatest have nodded occasionally; and those who condemn 'The Immortal Hour' because it does not reveal a uniform inspiration are those who miss the full flavour of such fine music as accompanies the appearance of Etain in the first Act, the beautiful scene between Etain and Eochaidh in the peasant's hut, and the magnificently virile music for Midir shortly after his entrance. The music, indeed, has a fine melodic flow, and the originality and general effectiveness of the orchestration are very pronounced. The freshness of his ideas bodes well for Mr. Boughton's future as a leader in that little army which is furthering the establishment of a national musical We know that he has ideals; we know also that his belief in his own countrymen is strong. By gathering around him clever coadjutors imbued with the same sincerity of purpose as himself, it is within his power to erect such a temple of art at Glastonbury as will astonish the musical community. It cannot be expected that Mr. Boughton will find it possible to bear the whole brunt of the musical work at the projected Festival Theatre; nor, perhaps, would this be wise. It may be hoped, therefore, that he will win the goodwill and co-operation of those composers—such as Elgar, Vaughan-Williams, Walford Davies, Balfour Gardiner, Percy Grainger, and others-who are already helping to found the new English School. Mr. Boughton himself has perhaps done as much as any of the younger British composers to further the cause of that which has hitherto been called 'opera' but for which we must now coin a more appropriate name; surely his persistence and tenacity should lead to greater activity on the part of others, especially as the way will be to some extent

prepared for them. The cast of 'The Immortal Hour' was an unusually adequate one. Both Mr. Frederick Austin (Eochaidh) and Mr. Herbert Langley (Dalua) proved themselves towers of strength, the former sterling artist investing his rôle with all those musicianly attributes that we have learned to expect from him, and Mr. Langley's singing was full of significance and resource. Miss Marjorie Ffrançon Davies was a very charming Etain, her performance being singularly simple and tender. Mr. Arthur Jordan (Midir) made good use of a delightfully fresh-toned voice, and the minor characters were all well done. One fault, however, was rather too general to escape notice: this was a decided weakness in the diction, whereby our complete enjoyment in the performance was somewhat endangered. Mr. Charles Kennedy-Scott, who is quickly building up a reputation in the Metropolis as a choral conductor, directed the orchestra and chorus with much

credited to the first-rate orchestral playing. Both the dancing and the staging, too, were as tasteful as the enforced limitations of the Winter Gardens Pavilion would permit. Mr. Boughton was obliged to respond to the acclamations of a delighted audience, who evidently wished also to express their gratitude to Mr. Dan Godfrey—the British composers' best friend—for giving them the opportunity of witnessing such a thoroughly artistic production.

HAMILTON LAW.

THE BRISTOL MADRIGAL SOCIETY.

Special interest attached to the Ladies' Night of the Bristol Madrigal Society on January 14, as it was the fiftieth occasion upon which Mr. D. W. Rootham conducted these annual performances. As usual the concert was held in the Victoria Rooms, though there had been a fear that the building would not be available, as troops have been billeted there.

The programme was as follows:

'God save the King'					Horsley.
'All creatures now					Benet.
Sweet honey-sucking	Long.				FETTER
	nees				
'Thine eyes so bright'	4.6	1. 15			Leslie.
Lady, see on every sic	le'				Marenzio.
'Ode on time ' (special	ly com	posed	for the	occus	ion) Stanford.
The silver swan					Gibbons.
'The nightingale'					Mendelssohn.
'As Vesta was'					Weelkes.
Matona, lovely maide	m'				Lassus.
'A shepherd in a glade					. B. Rootham.
My bonny lass					Morley.
'Sweete floweres'					Walmislev.
Camilla fair'					Bateson.
Sir Patrick Spens					Pearsall.
In going to my lonely	bed '				Edwards.
Lady, when I behold					Wilbye.
La belle dame (specia		mosec	d for th	e occi	ssion) Parry.
When flow'ry meadow					l'alestrina.
O sweetly sleep'					Pierson.
Song of night'					Mendelssohn,
The waits					Savile.

Sir Charles Stanford's setting of Milton's 'Ode on Time' is an exacting work of high quality, and was well appreciated by the audience. Keats's 'La Belle Dame sans Merci' was set by Sir Hubert Parry to music that is elaborate, though engaging. Sir Hubert in a letter wrote significantly, 'I dare say it is difficult, but I thought it might give a choir such as yours something to tackle.' The piece presents many beauties, and it is highly esteemed by the Society. A third contribution by a living composer was that of Dr. Cyril B. Rootham, son of the conductor, whose effort 'A shepherd in a glade' gained the Musical Times prize in 1904, and has become a favourite on the laddies' nights. It once more met with a cordial reception. During the interval Dr. Basil Harwood (the president of the Society), on behalf of a large number of subscribers, presented Mr. D. W. Rootham with a silver rose bowl and a cheque for £150, and on behalf of the Old Boys of the Society with a pair of silver candlesticks. The Lord Mayor of Bristol (Alderman J. Swaish) spoke in praise of Mr. Rootham and of the beneficent influence he had exercised upon the music of the city. Mr. Rootham, who was much affected, said in response that if he could do anything for the Society in the future nothing would give him greater pleasure. Among those present at the concert were Sir Hubert Parry, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, Sir Edward Cooper (chairman of the Council of the Royal Academy of Music), Mr. E. Nicholls (president of the Madrigal Society), Dr. C. Harford Lloyd, and Dr. Cyril B. Rootham.

Musicians in theatrical orchestras and elsewhere, thrown out of work by the War, have at least one fresh opening—the military bands of the new corps in Kitchener's Army. Bandsmen, for instance (for all instruments), are wanted for the Second Sportsman's Battalion, Royal Fusiliers. These must enlist, and they will draw the usual Army pay, but they will also be paid for any private engagements they fulfil. All applications should be made to the Sergt.-Drummer, Second Sportsman's Battalion, Hotel Cecil, Strand, (Embankment Entrance), daily from 12 to 1 or from 2 to 4 p.m.

London Concerts.

THE ROYAL CHORAL SOCIETY.

On New Year's Day a performance of 'The Messiah' was given by this Society at the Royal Albert Hall under the direction of Sir Frederick Bridge. The singing was always of high merit, and greatly impressed a large audience. The admirable quality of the tone was particularly noticeable. Miss Esta d'Argo (replacing Miss Ruth Vincent), Madame Clara Butt, Mr. Ben Davies, and Mr. Herbert Brown guitheresting interpretations of the solo numbers, and Mr. H. L. Balfour did good service at the organ. A second performance of 'The Messiah' was given on January 16.1 when Miss Ruth Vincent was able to appear as soprano soloist.

QUEEN'S HALL ORCHESTRA.

The annual New Year concert took place on the afternous of December 2, under Sir Henry Wood's direction. A familiar programme included the 'William Tell' 'Tannhäuser,' and '1812' Overtures, the 'Peer Gyz' Suite, Järnefeldt's 'Præludium,' and Walford Davies, 'Solemn Melody.' Saint-Säens's A minor Violonælis concerto was played by Signor Enrico Mainardi.

concerto was played by Signor Enrico Mainardi.

At the Symphony Concert on January 16 it was show that César Franck's Symphony, in spite of its austerities, has a strong hold upon the public favour. Under Sir Hen Wood's direction the Orchestra gave a performance that we full of purpose, well-studied and deep expression, and glowing colour. The audience showed thorough appreciation, and the work may at length be said to have established itself in London. In sharp contrast came Lalo's 'Symphonic Espagnole' for violin, played by Miss Marie Hall, whose reading was graceful and skilfully executed. The remainder of the programme consisted of Granville Bantock's delightfut tone-poem 'The Pierrot of the minute,' which is head too seldom, Delius's 'Dance Rhapsody,' Bach's forth's Brandenburg' Concerto, and a Minuet in D of Mozart.

THE LONDON TRIO.

These excellent musicians gave the first Chamber Concer of the year on January 6, at the Æolian Hall, whe Arensky's Trio in F minor and Brahms's Sonata in F fir pianoforte and violoncello were the principal item. M. Pécskai played Tartini's 'Devil's Trill' Sonata, al Miss Geraldine Jesse was the singer. There was a large audience.

The first New-Year's 'Music Meeting' of the Society of Women Musicians was held on January 16 at the Woman's Institute, Victoria Street, Madame Elsie Horne undertaking the arrangement of the programme. The executants were Miss Ethel Bilsland (vocalist), Miss Ethel Ullhom-Zillhardt (violoncello), Madame Elsie Horne (pianoforte, and Miss Marjorie Hermon (accompanist). The programme included amongst other items the first movement of Rachmaninov's Sonata in G minor for violoncello and pianoforte, the 'Bell Song' (Délibes), and two new some by Elsie Horne. The next meeting will be held at the Woman's Institute on February 20, when the programme will be arranged by Miss Jessie Grimson.

'The Messiah' was given by the Alexandra Palace Chon Society at the Northern Polytechnic on January 16. The choir responded to Mr. Allen Gill's beat with its usual expressive power and certainty of execution, and good subsinging was provided by Miss Carrie Tubb, Miss Ast Holman, Mr. Frank Webster, and Mr. Joseph Farrington.

Humperdinck's 'Hänsel und Gretel' was performed it 'Cosmopolis' on January 16, by students of the Loost School of Opera. Special praise is due to Miss Make Corran and Miss Evelyn Matthews in the title parts. The plot was previously explained in French for the benefit the Belgian children who formed the bulk of the audience.

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Elgar's 'King Olaf' was performed more than creditably by the People's Palace Choral and Orchestral Society on innary 16 under the direction of Mr. Frank Idle. In spite of the difficulties of the music the choralists sang with notable precision and expressive power. The solo parts were taken by Miss Gertrude Blomfield, Mr. Webster Millar, and Mr. George Baker.

The Hither Green Choral and Orchestral Society gave a stry good miscellaneous concert on January 21. The Choric Song from 'The Lotus Eaters' (C. Hubert H. Parry) was the chief work. In this and a song by Mr. Montague Phillips Miss Marion Boughton distinguished herself. Mr. Frederick Ranalow, Miss Maxted (harp), Miss Italia M. Caraco (violin), were other attractions. Mr. Ernest Damayne conducted capably. This is his first season with the Society.

Music in the Provinces.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

BIRMINGHAM.

Before the close of the year 1914, two concerts were given, the one by the Midland Institute School of Music orchestra on December 14, and the other at the Town Hall on Boxing Night by the Birmingham Festival Choral Society. The Concert at the Midland Institute was conducted by Prof. Granville Bantock, and the chief interest centred in the performance of two student compositions, which showed indoubted ability and musicianship, the more noteworthy being 'Variations on the old English melody "Sumer is immen in,"' by H. Graham Godfrey, who conducted. The other composition was a Romance for pianoforte and orchestra by William J. Fenney, founded on 'The Bell' by Hans Andersen, chiefly characterized by its idyllic and stongly imaginative charm. Mr. Clarence Raybould, a former student of the School, contributed a 'Lullaby,' well sung by Miss Mary Foster. The programme also con-tained a Suite for orchestra, 'In the olden style,' by Alfred T. Warwick, and Hamish MacCunn's Overture 'Land of the mountain and the flood,' the interesting concert concluding with a vivid exposition of Havergal Brian's miliant 'Festal Dance,' with Mr. Arthur Cooke as pianist.

The Festial Dance, with Mr. Arthur Cooke as planist.

The Festival Choral Society's Concert on Boxing Night
consisted of the annual performance of 'The Messiah,'
given under Dr. Sinclair's conductorship before a crowded
assembly, which as usual applauded every number as if a
miscellaneous concert were proceeding. The choir sang
with its customary sonority of tone and unfailing precision.

The ascellaneous or principals included Miss Cover Table. The excellent array of principals included Miss Carrie Tubb, Miss Phyllis Lett, Mr. Frank J. Webster, Mr. Herbert Brown, and Mr. C. W. Perkins (organ).

In aid of the Belgian Refugees, the Birmingham Burns Club gave a concert in the Town Hall on January 9, under the presidency of Dr. A. R. Oliver. The already lengthy provided by Mr. Hugh McNeilly's concert party of Scottish atists, which included Miss Violet Thomson, Miss Isabel wilkie, Mr. W. A. Ferguson, and Mr. Hugh McNeilly (mealists), Miss Nancy Lee (violin), and Mr. Forbes Forsyth (accompanist). The vocalists displayed excellent vides of considerable tone-power, and the violinist proved baself to be a performer of high artistic attainments. The office of the considerable tone-power and the violinist proved baself to be a performer of high artistic attainments.

iganist was Mr. C. W. Perkins.
Owing to the War, the Midland Institute Conversazione, which generally takes place in the second week of January, has been abandoned for this year, in consequence of which the Birmingham Amateur Opera Society cannot produce its customary operatic work, which constitutes the musical attraction of the Conversazione.

high-class concert was given at the Royal Society of Artists' Gallery on January 19, the executive again being the Catterall Quartet, assisted by Miss Lilias Dunlop (viola). The programme included String quintets by Mozart and Brahms, Hugo Wolf's 'Italian Serenade,' and a String quartet by Balfour Gardiner.

BOURNEMOUTH.

Now that we have completed the first half of the winter season it is possible to form some opinion of the effect that the War has had upon music and musical undertakings. We shall not attempt here to summarise the conclusions at which most of those who are connected with music in some sphere or other have arrived, but we can deduce from those opinions and from experience in general that Bournemouth may be accounted fortunate in that she has been able to 'carry on with less inconvenience than most of our big towns have suffered. Of course, concert performances only tell half the tale, but merely to reckon up the Winter Gardens activities will bring the conviction that matters might easily be worse. In spite of the War and the weather, the Symphony and other concerts continue their onward march, much to the delight of those who find in music a sure solace in these times of anxiety and peril. At the first-named there have been several performances of outstanding excellence, and many attractive works, new and old, have been played. Of these we may cite the following as of special interest and importance: 'Benvenuto Cellini' Overture (Berlioz), Symphony in F (Brahms), Concert Valse by Glazounov (first performance here), Tchaikovsky's fifth Symphony, 'Rosamunde' Overture (Schubert), Rimsky-Korsakov's Symphony No. 1 (first Bournemouth performance), Tarantel'a (Chopin-Glazounov), two Flemish Dances (Blockx), Dvorák's 'New World' Symphony, and Dukas's 'Polyeucte' Overture Girst performance at these concerts), and 'L'Apprenti Sorcier' Scherzo. Three other first performances here were those of Arnold Trowell's new Violoncello concerto—a very pleasing and melodious work, in which the solo part was played splendidly by Mr. Trowell himself—Frank Tapp's Symphony, 'The Tempest,' and Dr. Charles Maclean's Character Piece, 'The First Ball'—each of these latter being conducted by the composer.

No less instructive and quite as enjoyable have been the Monday 'Pops,' of which we give the principal points of interest: December 14, Russian Nationalist Composers (Overture on Three Themes by Balakirev; Ballet music, 'Prince Igor,' by Borodine; Miniature Suite by Cui; Fantasia, 'Une nuit sur le Mont Chauve,' by Moussorgsky; Suite, 'Scheherazade,' by Rimsky-Korsakov). December 21: 'Christmastide' programme ('The cricket on the hearth' Overture, by A. C. Mackenzie; the Bach-Gounod 'Ave Maria'; 'Winter,' from 'The Seasons,' by Edward German; Meditation, 'Lux Christi,' by Elgar; Reverie, 'The voice of the bells,' by Luigini). December 28, French Composers (Marche Hongroise, Ballet des Sylphes, Minuet des Follets, from 'Faust,' by Berlioz; Suite No. 1, 'L'Arlésienne,' by Bizet). January 4, 'Wagner' programme (Flower Maidens' Chorus, and Good Friday Music from 'Parsifal'; Wotan's Farewell and Fire Music, 'The Valkyrie'; Siegmund's Love Song; 'Forest Murmurs' from 'Siegfried'; 'The Flying Dutchman' Overture, January 11, 'Fairy Tales' programme (Cherubini's 'Ali Baba' Overture; Overture, 'Hansel and Gretel,' and Dream Pantomime from the same opera, by Humperdinck; Ballet, 'The Sleeping Beauty,' by Tchaikovsky). Suite, 'Scheherazade,' by Rimsky-Korsakov). December 21: Tchaikovsky).

Madame Alys Bateman, Mr. Percy Frostick, and Mr. Eduard Parlovitz were heard to moderate advantage in a concert of Russian music on December 19, but this has been the only event of this nature. On January 5 the Municipal Choir and Orchestra put the powers of attraction of Handel's 'Messiah' again to the proof, and with the happiest results. Mr. Dan Godfrey's direction of the united forces was an inspiration to all concerned. The soloists were Miss Sybil Vane, Miss Alice Lakin, Mr. John Booth, and Mr. Robert

An account of the Bournemouth production of 'The Under the auspices of the Birmingham Chamber Concerts Immortal Hour' (Rutland Boughton)-perhaps the chief Society, and under the direction of Mr. Gerald Forty, a event of last month-appears elsewhere in this issue (p. 107).

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DEVON AND CORNWALL.

PLYMOUTH.

Concerts for War Funds or for the entertainment of the troops continue to occupy solely the attention of performers and the public. The provision for the latter purpose is systematic and thorough. The Y.M.C.A. have organized a system whereby with the co-operation of musicians of all grades, professional and amateur, entertainments are regularly provided free for the troops in hutments, tents and halls, in barracks and in camps. That these concerts are appreciated a first visit alone is sufficient to convince. most cases in the outlying forts the men are recruits of Kitchener's Army and are living under the roughest conditions, yet their chivalry, courtesy, and gratitude to the artists would serve as model for a picked audience. sight of the men standing or sitting packed close in rapt attention has pathos as well as humour, and stirs the deepest feelings of the heart. The music which best pleases Tommy and Jack is that of the sweetly sentimental and the stirringly patriotic and martial kinds. Either of these he quickly learns, and he does not wait for an invitation to join in the singing. In quite a large number of cases genuine talent and gift for playing or singing have been discovered, In quite a large number of cases genuine and this entertainment of music in time of war is not without features which may give it lasting importance. Even the musicians who in other conditions find rag-time and the popular songs articles of abhorrence may be discovered cordially helping along the concert in the spirit of the moment.

In aid of the Queen's 'Work for Women' Fund, Dr. Weekes's Orchestral Society gave a concert on December 16, 1914, at which several works were represented by one movement-a procedure to be condemned on artistic grounds. The Symphony in C minor of Gade (one movement) was the most important work of the band; the last movement of a Sonata for pianoforte and violoncello by Rubinstein, and pieces by Reinecke, Beethoven, Bizet, and Mendelssohn, were given. The string-players of the Extempore Chamber Music Club, who are also members of the orchestra, played the slow movement from Tchaikovsky's Quartet in D. Dr. Weekes and Mr. Walter Weekes the vocalists were Miss Tresise and conducted, and the Mr. Robert Chignell.

The War has interrupted the formal meetings of the Extempore Chamber Music Club, but the playing members have continued to meet privately on Sundays, and much good work has been accomplished in an enhanced ensemble and chamber music technique, and acquaintance with works

new and old.

The annual performances of 'The Messiah' by the Guildhall Choir, conducted by the borough organist, on January 2, had the assistance of a good string orchestra and of the Misses Mary Leighton and Winifred Lewis, and Messrs. Sydney Coltham and Joseph Farrington as principal vocalists.

OTHER DEVONSHIRE TOWNS.

The arrangements announced for the early spring by the management of the Torquay Pavilion show no diminution of interest. A special Christmas programme given by the orchestra, conducted by Mr. Basil Cameron, included a Shakesperian concert. The violinist, Melsa, the Russian prima donna, Madame Kontratov, and the boy pianist, Solomon, have performed. Other characteristic programmes have been Russian, Sullivan, and a soldiers' concert.

Miss Marian Pearson, a lady who has resided in Egypt, obtained some very interesting Egyptian and Arabic music for incidental use in a play of her own authorship, 'Broken barriers,' of which the scene is laid in Egypt, and which was played at Babbacombe on January 6. The Arabic was played at Babbacombe on January 6. The Arabic music was by Mansour Awad, Sami A. Chawat, and M. Abdel Messih (Cairo). Oriental songs from other sources were introduced, and the musical setting of the scenes indicated the distinctive touch and tact of the artist. The author herself played the pianoforte and directed the

Miss E. Knight Bruce (violin) and Mr. H. G. Ley (pianoforte) devoted the proceeds of their annual chamber concert at Exeter, on January 8, to patriotic purposes. They secured the assistance of Mr. O. Borsdorf, jun. (horn), and Chorus. A portion of Wagner's 'Parsifal' was added by

the Horn trio of Brahms and a Sonata for pianoforte and horn by Beethoven (Op. 17) were played. Among other pieces, Miss Beatrice Betts sang some songs composed by Mr. Ley.

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CORNWALL

On Boxing Day, St. Ives Choral Society, conducted by Mr. E. White, sang 'The Rose Maiden.' At Cambone on January 1, a choir of nearly 500 voices sang anthem and choruses under the direction of Mr. H. V. Peare. Carol singing is usually a prominent feature of Cambons life during the Christmas season, and though the partie were fewer in number in the past season than formerly, the custom was well maintained. A Christmas concert agiven by the Wesleyan Centenary choir, conducted by Mr. F. E. Luke.

DUBLIN.

The Sunday Orchestral Concerts re-commenced after the Christmas vacation on January 10. Dr. Es Beethoven's 'Waldstein' sonata, Op. 53. Dr. Esposito played Vincent (soprano) was the vocalist, and the orchestral item included three entractes from Schubert's 'Rosamunda' Wagner's 'Waldweben,' and Smetana's 'Bartered Bile Overture. On January 17, Beethoven's second Symptom was the chief orchestral piece, and the strings of the base also played Percy Grainger's 'Molly on the shore.' Mr. P. J. Griffith was the solo violinist, and Mr. Irvine Lync (bass) the vocalist.

The chamber music recitals of the Royal Dublin Society were resumed on January 11, when Dr. Esposito, Signo Simonetti, and Mr. Clyde Twelvetrees played Beethous Trio in E flat, Op. 70, No. 2, and Brahms's Horn trio, Op. 40. Much interest was taken in the first performance of Dr. Esposito's new Sonata for violin and pianoforte in A Op. 67, which was beautifully played by Signor Simones and the composer, and cordially received. The War prevented the Pianoforte recital arranged for January 18 by

Mr. Harold Bauer from taking place.

On January 9 a concert was given in the Theatre Royal for a fund to provide comforts for the 7th Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers when it goes to the Front. A have audience, headed by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Marchioness of Aberdeen, filled every seat in the theate, and the net result was a profit of £203. Mr. John Coats. Madame Borel, Miss Jean Nolan, Mr. Percy Whitehed and the Carlton Quartet (Miss Lilian Whittaker, Miss Editi Mortier, Messrs. W. Lewin, and Mr. T. W. Hall) were the vocalists. Signor Simonetti, Mr. Clyde Twelvetrees, and Dr. Esposito (who played Mr. John Coates's accompaniment were the instrumental soloists, and Mr. C. W. Wilson the accompanist. The programme included Miss Alice M. Finny's dramatic sketch 'The Call,' a sketch by M. Percy French and Miss Florence Marks, and orchestal items contributed by the theatre orchestra under the conductorship of Mr. John Moody.

On January 12, in the Unitarian Church, Mons J. Stayt.

late professor and organist at Notre Dame College, Antwer and now a refugee at Dublin, gave an interesting or recital on the organ built in 1911 by J. W. Walker & See

of London.

EDINBURGH.

The features of recent concerts of Messrs. Paternon Orchestral series have been as follows: On December 21, Miss May Harrison was solo violinist in Brahms's Concerto on December 28, Miss Rosina Buckman, Mr. Frank Mullings and Mr. Robert Radford were vocalists at a Wagner concellon January 4. Mr. Alfred Hollins was solo organist in Guilmant's Symphony in D minor, and Mr. Inches tookthe place of Emil Mlynarski as conductor. Bronislav Huberns gave an impressive performance of Beethoven's Void On January 18, Sapellnikov entranced the audience by his interpretation of Schumann's A miss Pianoforte concerto. At the same concert, Brahms C minor Symphony received an inspired performance unit the baton of Mlynarski.

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Paterson ecember 21 s Concerto ak Mullings ner concert organist it es took the Huberns en's Viole ranced the s A minor

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complete the programme. On January 1, the Royal Choral Union gave an afternoon performance of 'The Messiah,' and a Scotch Concert in the evening. On the same evening, Mr. Moonie's Choir gave a similar concert in the Music Hall. But for these concerts musical enterprise would be at a

GLASGOW.

On December 20 the Bach Choir, under Mr. J. M. Diack, we its annual performance of the 'Christmas Oratorio' in St. Mary's Cathedral, and was most skilfully accompanied by Mr. G. T. Pattman, the Cathedral organist.

At the seventh Classical Concert on December 22 the Misses May and Beatrice Harrison made a successful first appearance here as soloists in Brahms's Concerto in A minor violin and violoncello with orchestra (Op. 102). On Christmas Eve the Scottish Orchestra gave a patriotic concert in aid of the National War Fund. In addition to ome other choral numbers, the Choral Union sang the some other crown and the source, the condition of sang the Mational Anthems of Britain, France, Russia, Belgium, Servia, and Japan, and the orchestral programme ranged from Elgar's 'Pomp and Circumstance' to 'Tipperary.' The appearance of Mr. Hutton Malcolm, a local missician, who at very short notice took Mr. Robert Burnett's place and programme as solo vocalist, is worthy of paniel mention, as is also his dramatic performance of 'The Dowie Dens of Yarrow,' a 'prize' ballad, the composition of T. S. Drummond, another highly accomplished local

A Wagner programme was given at the eighth Classical Concert on December 29, the selection including the first Act of 'Die Walkure' (Miss Rosina Buckman and Messrs. F. Mullings and R. Radford), the love duet from the third Act of 'Lohengrin' (Miss Buckman and Mr. Mullings), and Hans Sachs's Monologue from 'Die Meistersinger.' The customary New Year's Day performance of 'The Messiah' was given by the Choral Union under Mr. Henri Verbrugghen, the work being repeated before a popular sudience on January 14. The Y.M.C.A. Choral Institute's 'Messiah' concert on January 4 calls for special notice as demonstrating the results of valuable educational work done monstrating the results of valuable educational work done by Mr. R. L. Reid, the conductor. The choruses were sang with commendable precision and accuracy. Mr. Cole's orchestra, with Mr. B. W. Hartley as organist, gave the accompaniments.

Miss Winifred Christie was solo pianist at the tenth Miss Winifed Christie was solo pianist at the tenth classical Concert on January 5, taking part in Saint-Saëns's Pianoforte concerto in C minor, and César Franck's Symphonic variations for pianoforte and orchestra. Two novelties were included in the programme, Hamilton Harty's 'Comedy overture' and Florent Schmitt's Suite 'Reflets d'Allemagne,' the former being especially well received. The outstanding feature—indeed one of the most reterrorby expense of the present concert season, was the noteworthy events of the present concert season-was the débût of Mr. Albert Sammons as solo violinist at the eleventh Classical Concert on January 12. Mr. Sammons's magnificent interpretation of Beethoven's Violin concerto made a very deep impression, and secured for the soloist an ovation seldom accorded at these concerts.

M. Sapellnikov was the chief attraction at the twelfth Classical Concert on January 19. Splendidly supported by the Scottish Orchestra, he gave a very brilliant performance of Schumann's Pianoforte concerto in A minor, as well as a group of solos which included the performer's own Gavotte m E major and Liszt's sixth Rhapsody. The symphony was Brahms's No. 1 in C minor, and Slavonic music—of which there has been no lack this season—was represented by a first performance here of a Fantasia for orchestra by

Moussorgsky.

So far the Saturday Popular Orchestral Concerts have proved that we do not want for highly capable solo per-formers in our own ranks—this with special reference to the successful appearance of Miss Bessie Spence as solo riolinist and Mr. Wilfrid Senior as solo pianist. At one of the concerts M. Mlynarski, the conductor, and Mr. Horace Fellowes, the leader of the Scottish Orchestra, played a Buch Concerto for two violins.

At the City Hall Saturday Evening Concerts the Glasgow Orpheus Choir (Mr. H. S. Roberton) gave an evening for the benefit of the Belgian Relief Fund.

LIVERPOOL.

The seventh Philharmonic Concert on January 12 was conducted by Sir Henry Wood, whose interpretation of Brahms's third Symphony revealed the qualities of Brahms's third Symphony revealed the qualities of expression and sincerity which the music possesses beyond its constructive interest. Rimsky-Korsakov's strenuous overture, 'Ivan the Terrible,' Ravel's 'Pavane sur une Infante défunte,' and Percy Grainger's 'Pavane sur une County Derry' and 'Shepherd's Hey' completed a well-diversified scheme, the choir being heard in two part-songs by Brahms and in Dudley Buck's 'Hymn to Music.'

Linusual interest attached to this concept as the first

Unusual interest attached to this concert as the first occasion on which the famous violinist Ysäye has played in public since his adventurous escape from Belgium. was César Franck, M. Ysäye is a native of Liège, and his home was in Brussels. What has become of his summer villa at Knocke he does not know. M. Ysäye and his roll at Knocke he does not know. M. Ysaye and his family, with the exception of two sons and a son-in-law now fighting in King Albert's army, escaped to England after enduring manifold hardships by land and sea. They lost all their baggage, but Ysaye managed to save his priceless Strad, upon which he played on this occasion. Viotti's Violin concerto, No. 22, in A minor, with all his old executive mastery and suavity of tone. It was evident that M. Ysäye was greatly touched by the unmistakable outburst of sympathy which greeted his appearance. His playing of Viotti's melodious if old-fashioned material was remarkable for its depth and tenderness of expression. In Beethoven's Romance in G and Saint-Saëns's 'Havanaise' M. Ysäye had further opportunities to display his exceptional qualities, technical and temperamental.

At the Rodewald Club Concert on January 11, the programme was sustained by Mr. Frederic Brandon and Mr. Vivian Burrows, who collaborated in Brahms's Sonata in A, Op. 100, for pianoforte and violin, and César Franck's Sonata for the same instruments, a familiar masterpiece of which these gifted young players gave a delightful

interpretation.

The Moody-Manners Opera Company has received unmistakable signs of public appreciation and support during its season at Kelly's Theatre, which commenced on Boxing Day. It has performed a round of familiar operas, including 'Carmen,' 'Martha' (a highly-popular revival), 'The daughter of the regiment,' 'Maritana,' and 'Satanella.'

A special concert of the Akeroyd Symphony Orchestra was given in the Philharmonic Hall on Boxing Day, at which the extraordinary interpretation of the boy pianist, Solomon, in Tchaikovsky's B flat Pianoforte concerto, marked a further stage in his artistic development, especially in the virility and resolution of his playing. As usual Mr. Akeroyd had drawn up an attractive scheme. It included the 'Oberon' Overture, Massenet's 'Scenes Pittoresques,' and Luigini's 'Russian Ballet' Suite,—easily assimilated music and excellently played. It was noticeable that the orchestra was usefully augmented by lady stringplayers from the Societa Armonica, which has the advantage

of Mr. Akeroyd's fine experience as conductor.

The concert of the Welsh Choral Union on December 19 had a melancholy interest in being the first performance given after the death of Mr. Harry Evans, whose last public appearance was as conductor of Brahms's 'Requiem' on March 28. 'The Messiah' was therefore fitly preluded by Handel's Dead March in 'Saul,' played as a tribute to Mr. Evans's memory. To those who knew and loved him the simple, solemn strains gave an added pang to the sense of irrevocable loss. It was painful to realise that we shall no more see this ardent, magnetic, masterful spirit in his accustomed place. There is no doubt he is truly mourned. A very good performance of the 'Messiah' was given, following as closely as possible the accustomed lines. The vocal principals were Miss Evans Williams, who sang extremely well; Miss Hidda Cragg-James, an excellent local contralto; Mr. John Rocht who has a text-dependent of the contralto of the contralto. John Booth, who has a tendency unduly to accentuate the dramatic possibilities of the music; and Mr. Herbert Brown, who was in fine voice. Mr. Alfred Benton was an able and discreet organist, and Mr. Akeroyd led the orchestra, which had been cut down in the brass department to one trumpet, one trombone, and two horns. As the guest-conductor of the concert,

Mr. John Watkyn, of Dowlais, filled a somewhat difficult rôle with great credit. He secured a careful and steady all-round performance, and may be commended for his general adherence to customary tempi. Mr. Watkyn will have another opportunity of conducting the splendid material of the Welsh Choral Union at its second concert on February 6.

The programme-book of this 'Messiah' concert will be widely cherished as a souvenir, for it contains an interesting memoir of the late Mr. Harry Evans, reproduced from the Musical Times, and also a reproduction of an excellent photograph taken by Mr. Llew. Wynne, secretary of the Welsh Choral Union.

Conducted by Mr. P. H. Ingram, a 'Messiah' performance was given by the Liverpool Choral Society in the Central Hall on December 26, with Madame Naomi Bell, Miss Helen Anderton, Mr. Arthur Wilkes, and Mr. Charles Leeds

as vocal principals.

Among the noticeable events of the past month was the pianoforte and violin recital given in the Rushworth Hall on January 14 by Mr. Roland Brewerton and Mr. Gordon E. Stutely, who ably sustained an interesting programme which included Grieg's Sonata in F. Mr. Brewerton revealed high accomplishment as a pianist in his solos, notably in the 'Moonlight' sonata.

At the concert of the Anfield Orchestral Society on January 20, Mr. William Faulkes was the solo pianist in Chopin's F minor Concerto, and in Saint-Saëns's Septuor for strings, trumpet (Mr. Pierpoint), and pianoforte. Mr. Faulkes, as conductor of this Society, has gathered round him a goodly array of earnest amateurs led by Mr. Frank Creswell, although military service has taken toll in several departments of the orchestra. Mrs. Howard Stephens contributed songs by Mozart, Arne, and Kjerulf.

Two of the Corporation fiftieth anniversary lectures which will specially attract local musical circles are those to be given on February 4 by Mr. Arnold Dolmetsch ('Old English music and musical instruments'), and on March 9 by Sir Frederick Bridge, whose subject is 'Milton and music' ('The masque of Comus').

MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT.

After an interval of many years there was an attempt, at After an interval of many years there was an attempt, at Christmas, to challenge the supremacy of pantomime and children's Christmas plays, Mr. Brand Lane whipping together a choir for 'The Messiah' on Christmas night, and engaging Sir Henry Wood for a popular orchestral concert on Boxing Day. Probably the arrangements were ratified prior to July 31, or Mr. Lane would hardly have chosen this year to inaugurate what may be hoped will be a permanent feature of the Christmas vacation at Manchester. At Blackpool, thronged with additional visitors (military and otherwise) as it was, the attendances at similar concerts were not up to the average, but there an important opera season followed in the same week, -and everybody is spending more cautiously in these days.

Attendances at the opening Smoking Promenade Concerts of the New Year were well up to the average, if not overflowing as on some occasions in the autumn. The Halle Choir busied itself in selling tickets for an 'Elijah' performance on the day prior to the resumption of the Halle subscription series (rather a daring thing, considering that this also was a choral concert), and had the gratification of handing over the sum of £234 to the Belgian Fund. Mr. Wilson conducted, with local principal soloists save

Mr. Robert Radford.

Up to the time of writing there have been five baritone entries from past or present students of the Royal Manchester College of Music in connection with the Beecham-Delius challenge issued in December (vide p. 38 in the January issue). The work, of course, is Delius's 'Sea Drift,' and there will be a special concert conducted by Beecham (after the close of the customary Hallé season) on March 24, at

which this work will be given.

Only two of the Hallé concerts of January can be considered in this month's notice: that of January 7, conducted by Beecham, combined in a degree-rare even in his ablydrafted programmes-those elements of variety and novelty so stimulating alike to musical enjoyment and intellectual interest. Berlioz's 'Te Deum' occupied most of the evening.

The work is one of Beecham's early loves, and as the chin had sung it under his baton in London only a month before, there was an easefulness in the performance not conspicuous when the same choralis's sang it under Balling two years ago Both playing and singing had greater zest than on that occasi Mr. John Booth was the soloist in the 'Te Deum' and in Arnold Bax's 'Fatherland'-a part which he had to prepare after the afternoon rehearsal. The glowing colour of the orchestration impressed one more than on the occasion of its initial performance at Liverpool in 1909. Delias's 'Paris' and Stravinsky's last scene from 'Petrouchka' rounded off this concert; both were new to us here. The one dazzled and the other puzzled, and the audience would have been glad to hear both over again right away. Nobody who had not heard the Hallé band for, say, three or four years would have believed it possible for such ultra-modern music to have been handled as it was. One had the feeling, although in different way, that as in Sibelius's last Symphony here was a composer with a direct, uncouth speech cutting right down to the simple bare essentials of his story, devoid of orchestal rhetoric, and with trimmings reduced to a minimum. The violence of its colouring assaulted the senses, and yet not in a repellent manner; then came passages that struck home by their absolute naïveté and beauty. Probably the impressions would be modified or entirely altered had the ballet accompanied the music. Before the end of the season we are to have more of M. Stravinsky.

Delius's 'Paris' links up with Elgar's 'Cockaigne'; and although written before much of Strauss's later work. anticipates in various degrees some of that composer's feature of style. I do not easily recall an effect quite so ravishing a the Adagio con espressione, where the muted violins with quie intensity sing the melody which leads into the Date section. The general buoyancy of Beecham's reads contributed materially to the enthusiastic welcome of the

Sir Frederic Cowen's programme on January 2 contained more music of the recognized 'tuney' type than any of recent months. The romantic character of Dvorák's 'From the New-world' Symphony, the caprice of Rimsky-Korsakov, the brilliance of the thin Tchaikovsky Suite (Op. 55), and of Edward German's 'Welsh Rhapsody,' were all amply realised under his direction. Possibly the opening of the 'Oberon' Overture was unduly drawn out, but the playing as a whole had every good feature, save absolute rhythmical precision.

The Society formerly known as the Salford Male-Voiz Choir has extended its borders and is now known as the Manchester Lyric Glee Society. Its conductor, Mr. Davi Grundy, was I believe a former member of the Manchester Orpheus Society. During recent years it has gained some success at the smaller competitive Festivals in the Manchester area, and this winter has laudably done is share in raising about £60 for Red Cross and Relief Funds

NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT.

The annual performance of 'The Messiah' was given in the Town Hall on December 23 by the Newcastle and Gateshead Choral Union. The vocalists were Miss Mans Houghton, Miss Cecilia Kemp, Mr. H. Brearley, and Mr. Robert Radford, with Mr. Ceres Jackson as an trumpeter. The accompaniments were played by Mr. Preston, who handled the venerable Town Hallorgan with masterly skill. Dr. Coward conducted, and brought off his usual thrilling effects. He certainly lifest performance of the old oratorio out of the conventional matter which company conductors have allowed it to fall into which so many conductors have allowed it to all.

There was a crowded audience.

On January 16 the Newcastle and District local centre the Free Church Musicians' Union held its monthly meeting in the Connaught Hall, Y.M.C.A., Blackett Sues. Newcastle, when a performance of Bach's cantata 'Thou Guide of Israel' was presented to the members by the Jesmond Wesleyan Choir, under the leadership of Mr. John Heywood. The soloists were Miss Belle Fyfe and Mr. Fres Dewhirst, and Mr. R. S. Gustard was accompanial Explanatory remarks were given by Mr. W. G. Whittake. who has done so much, both privately and publicly, spread a knowledge of Bach's works in the district. chairman for the evening was Mr. F. J. Culley.

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There is under this heading very little to chronicle beyond the usual Christmas 'Messiah' performances, which, in gite of the War, have been at least as numerous as usual, spite of the war, have been at least as inductions as usual, and as well attended, but presenting no novel features do not require detailed criticism. At Leeds the first concert in the New Year that was of general interest has been one given by Mr. Edward Elliott, a violinist, and Mr. Lupton Whitelock, a flautist, in annual event which is always the occasion for introducing some out-of-the-way music. This time we had two pieces some out-of-the-way maste. This time we that two pieces of chamber music in which the trumpet has a part, Saint-Saint-Saens's Septet (Op. 15), and d'Indy's 'Suite in the acient style' (Op. 24), both novelties to Leeds. The former is the more effective, and the composer's savoir faire is shown in his adroit treatment of the trumpet part, while the fact that he is a pianoforte virtuoso could easily be deduced from the almost excessive brilliance of the panoforte part, which Mrs. Elliott played with delightful flency. Mr. Mark Hemingway's highly artistic and refined trumpet playing also deserves recognition. Other interesting and pleasing pieces were Cui's five Miniature Duets for flute and yolin (Op. 56) and Kronke's second Suite, 'In modern syle,' for flute and pianoforte. At the Saturday Orchestral Concert on January 16 Mr. Fricker conducted Kalinnikov's 6 minor Symphony, and Mr. Arthur Rubinstein gave a nost brilliant and artistic interpretation of the solo part in Rethoven's C minor Pianoforte concerto. Mendelssohn's 'Midsummer Night's Dream' and Elgar's 'Cockaigne' Overtures were also features of the programme.

At Bradford Mr. Midgley has been enabled, by the mewed help of some anonymous lovers of music, to resume his excellent free chamber concerts, the first of which was on mary 4 and the second on January 18. At the former, Mr. Midgley (with Mr. A. E. Dunford as violinist) introduced John Ireland's powerful and most interesting Sonata in Dminor, a work in serious mood, and showing not merely ment technical skill but a powerful imagination. Schumann's Violin sonata in A minor, and Franck's in A, were also played. Miss Nellie Judson sang with charm of wice and style songs by MacDowell and Debussy. At the Mackenzie's early, but already quite masterly, Pianoforte quartet in E flat, and Frank Bridge's 'Phantasy' for Planoforte quartet, the latter, in view of its comparative mamiliarity, being played twice over. Messrs. Edgar Dake (violin), Thornton (viola), and Herbert Drake (violoncello), joined Mr. Midgley in the instrumental works, and Miss Messie Living and Messi and Miss Maggie Lister sang songs by Grieg and Schubert.
On January 15, at the Bradford Subscription Concert, the Hallé Orchestra, under Mr. Verbrugghen, was heard in Beethoven's seventh Symphony and Egmont' Overture, meethoven's seventh Symphony and 'Egmont' Overture, d'lady's 'Istar' Variations, and Liszt's 'Les Préludes,' Miss Marie Hall being the soloist in three movement of Lalo's 'Symphonie Espagnole.' Mr. Verbrugghen's readings of Beethoven were distinguished by very exceptional fire and force, and the dramatic and emotional qualities of the music were brought out without a shade of

Country and Colonial Mews.

BRIEFLY SUMMARIZED.

We cannot hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed in its summary, as the notices are either prepared from local analysis or furnished by correspondents (Creup-ndents are particularly requested to enclose a programme with property of concerts.

BRIGHTON.—The prize-giving at the Brighton School of Music took place on December 19, the prizes being distributed by Mrs. Tobias Matthay. The first holder of the new Kuhe Scholarship for pianists was announced to be James Henry Smith, of Hove. A highly satisfactory report of the work of the School was read, particular difference being made to examination successes and two erence being made to examination successes and two scholarships held at the Royal College of Music by former pupils of the School.

DOVER.—On December 19 a vocal and instrumental concert, organized by Mr. H. J. Taylor, the borough organist, was given at the Town Hall, the artists being Miss Curtois, Miss Avis Thorpe, Miss Kathleen Downs, and Mr. E. W. Barclay (vocalists), Mr. R. B. Freeman (violin), Miss May Cooper (violoncello), Miss Ethel Spain (pianoforte), and Mr. Taylor (organ). The proceeds were devoted to the assistance of Mr. Taylor's series of Camp Entertainments.

HOBART (TASMANIA).-The Orpheus Club opened its season on November 2 with a successful concert given under the direction of Mr. P. Planche-Plummer. The choir sang the chorus 'Comrades, rise,' from Gaul's 'Israel,' T. Koschat's 'The lovers,' Cooke's 'Strike the lyre,' Kreutzer's 'The chapel,' Walford Davies's 'Hymn before action,' and other pieces, and songs, duets and recitations, completed the programme.

MELBOURNE.—An excellent programme was chosen for the concert of the Philharmonic Society on November 25. Parry's 'Blest Pair of Sirens,' three Madrigals, Coleridge-Taylor's 'The lee shore,' Bantock's 'On Himalay' and 'Awake, awake,' and Elgar's 'The snow' and 'Fly, singing bird,' were given by the choir under the direction of Mr. Alberto Zelman. Enrico Bossi's Organ concerto in A minor was played by Mr. W. F. G. Steele, and the orchestra played Nicolai's Overture 'The merry wives of Windsor,' Hamish MacCunn's Overture 'The land of the mountain and the flood,' and the Introduction to Act 5 from Reinecke's 'King Manfred.'

NEVIS (B.W.I). - A concert in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund was given at St. Paul's Schoolroom on December 17. The programme consisted of orchestral, vocal, and dramatic items, and some patriotic tableaux.

NORWICH DISTRICT.—On January 13, 14, and 20, the Coltishall and Horstead Musical Society gave three performances of Bach's 'Christmas Oratorio' (parts 4, 5, and 6) at Coltishall Church, St. John's Maddermarket Church, Norwich, and Horstead Church respectively. The Rev. V. N. Gilbert conducted, Mr. G. Percival Griffiths was at the organ, and the solo vocalists were Miss Muriel Little, Miss Leonora Blofield, Mr. Francis Buckley, and Mr. Walter Ivimey.

READING.—An excellent chamber concert was given at the Town Hall on January 16 by Miss Stella Fife (violoncello), Miss Katherine Eggar (pianoforte), and Mr. D. Byndon-Ayres (vocalist). The Violoncello concerto of Saint-Saëns, a set of Variations for pianoforte by Glazounov, three Elizabethan Pastoral songs by Dr. A. H. Brewer, and 'Dance songs' by Bruneau were the chief features of an interesting programme.

WOKINGHAM.—A successful patriotic concert was given at the Drill Hall on January 11 by the Wokingham Choral Society assisted by members of the Wokingham Philharmonic Society and choirboys from All Saints' Church. Under the able direction of Mr. H. Roscoe-Eady the choir did good service in Bridge's choral ballad 'The flag of England,' which proved popular with both singers and audience. The vocalists were Miss Lilian Stiles-Allen, Mr. F. Major, and Master J. Liddiard, and solos were given by Mr. O. C. Hume (violin), and Miss M. Barry (pianoforte).

Miscellaneous.

The War Emergency Entertainments organized by Mr. Isidore de Lara are proving both useful and successful. A special matinée was given at the Haymarket Theatre on December 18, and other concerts have taken place at Claridge's and Steinway Hall. The primary object of the venture is to provide work for British artists who have suffered owing to the War.

All who are interested in the career of the late Learmont Drysdale, the Edinburgh composer, who died in 1909 at the age of forty-two, will find abundant information in the Dunedin Magazine for November, 1914 (the Edina Publishing Company, Edinburgh). A complete list of his works is included.

XUM

At the Royal Society of Arts on January 6 and 13 Mr. Plunket Greene gave two lectures for juveniles on 'How to sing a song.' He adapted for younger intelligences much of the admirable advice and teaching set out in his original course of lectures, reported in the Musical Times for December, 1910. As usual he forcibly illustrated his ideas by explaining, and giving his own interpretation of, some well-chosen songs.

Mr. Clifford Higgin, the Blackpool choral conducter, who left England recently to become organist of Brant Avenue Methodist Church, Brantford, Ontario, has been appointed conductor of the Schubert Choir, which has a membership of about 130.

The able critic of the Glasgow Herald, in a favourable criticism of a performance of Mr. Hamilton Harty's 'Comedy Overture,' says that the composer is one of the many refutations of the charge that the British public is in a conspiracy against the British musician.

M. Josef Denyn, the well-known carillonneur of Malines, has been the guest of Mr. W. W. Starmer at Tunbridge Wells, and has given carillon recitals at Bournville and Loughborough.

Report speaks well of the series of patriotic concerts in progress at the Crystal Palace under Mr. W. W. Hedgoock's direction, and at Kingsway Hall under the direction of Mr. Frank Idle.

A delightful children's play, 'The Cockyolly bird,' has had a successful short season at the Little Theatre. The author is Mr. Percy Dearmer, and the music was written by Mr. Martin Shaw.

Master Jack Beaver, a pupil of the Metropolitan Academy of Music, Forest Gate, has won the L.R.A.M. diploma (Class A, for pianoforte playing and teaching) at the age of fourteen.

High-class concerts, at which only the best classical music is to be given, are being organized in the East End of London by Mrs. Maud Mann (Miss Maud McCarthy).

The Yorkshire Post recently praised the vocalisation of Miss Lilian Stiles-Allen in the 'nornpipe air "Rejoice greatly"? ('Messiah').

Mr. H. T. Cart de Lafontaine has relinquished holy orders and will no longer use the title of 'Reverend.'

Answers to Correspondents.

CONDUCTOR.—Unless you can get a few really proficient viola, violoncello, and double-bass players, you cannot perhaps afford to dispense with pianoforte assistance, however brilliant your violinists may be. But if you can get this support, do without the pianoforte, as it spoils the ensemble tone. Two horns can be wonderfully useful for the middle of the harmony. If you can run to another wind-instrument, have a clarinet. Since you have such 'swell' solo violinists, get two of them to play a Bach concerto for two violins and string orchestra.

ELLIS.—Your memory serves you correctly. After some considerable search we have discovered (Musical Times, January, 1908, p. 32) that the first performance of Bach's B minor Mass in Scotland was given on December 16, 1907, by the Edinburgh (now Royal) Choral Union.

FIFE.—Vour letter does not merit serious consideration. Any village organist or music-teacher would disabuse you of your mistaken ideas in a few minutes. Incidentally you refer to Melba, the great prima donna, as Melsa (a well-known violinist).

L. K.—The phrase you quote is from a Canon for three voices by Martini, published in Messrs. Boosey's 'Golden treasury of song,' vol. iii.

L. L.—Start at about = 96; for the second subject use rubate rather than a slower pace.

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2.	My true love hath Good-night Where shall the lo Willow, Willow,	my ne	an	***	SH	Philip Side	+TI
2.	Where shall the k	over ve	et	***	***	Sheller	1
3.	Willow Willow	Willow	St	***	***		
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		SECO	ND SI	ET.			'T'
I.	O mistress mine		***			Shakespen	1
2.	Take. O take thos	se lins	away			Shakespan	'T'
2.	O mistress mine Take, O take thos No longer mourn Blow, blow, thou	for me	A. Transport	200	***	Shakespan Shakespan	1
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		THIE	RD SE	T.			tomas,
*1.	To Lucasta, on go				***	Lovelan	77
2.	If thou would'st er To Althea, from p Why so pale and v Through the ivory Of all the torment	ase this	ne he	ort		Beddies	1
*2.	To Althea, from r	rison		***	***		
*4	Why so pale and I	man	***	***	***	Spellin	1
4.	Through the ivory	Wall cote	000	***	***	Sucking Julian Stury Jilliam Wal	git, 42.
3.	Of all the terment	gate	* * *	***	7.5	illiam Wals	T
-0.	Of all the torment	S			**	Huam was	
		FOUR					'PA
*1.	Thine eyes still shi	2 1 C.				Emerso	1
*2	When lovers meet	again	1 1110	Lange	don El	www Mitchel	()
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3.	When we two part	led	***	***	000	Ance	0
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4.	O never say that I	was ta	ise or	heart		Shakespan	
5.					***	Hema	-
6.	Sleep			000	J	ulian Stop	T
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	Whence Nightfall in winter Marian	EIGHT	n or		T	ulian Stugi	
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Be merciful unto me		E. A. Sydenham F. W. Hird A. W. Batson	3d.	Lord, teach us to number our days (A.A.T.T.B.B.) C. H. Lloyd Lord, Thou hast searched
De merchui unto me		F W Hind	ıdd.	Lord, what is man W. Boyce
Be not Thou far from me, O God		A W Dateon	190.	Make me a clean heart J. Barnby and A. W. Batson, each
Blessed are they that mourn	Assume	d and Danla sach	3d.	Mine over look unto Then O Lord Cod U. D. Datson, each
*Bow down Thine ear	Attwoo	d and Beale, each W. Byrd	ıid.	Mine eyes look unto Thee, O Lord God H. Baker
*Bow Thine ear, O Lord	** **	Ch C. Byrd	3d.	My God, I love Thee G. J. Bennett My God, look upon me J. L. Hopkins My God, look upon me J. Reynolds
*By Babylon's wave	73	Ch. Gounod	2d.	My God, look upon me J. L. Hopkins
By the waters of Babylon		d H. Clarke, each		*My God, look upon me J. Reynolds My soul is weary J. C. Beckwith
By the waters of Babylon Higg		ridge-Taylor, each	3d.	My soul is weary J. C. Beckwith
By Thy glorious Death		Anton Dvorák	4d.	O all ye that pass by Vittoria
*Call to remembrance	** **	R. Farrant	ışd.	"O bountiful Jesu J. Stainer
Cast me not away	** **	C. Lee Williams		O God, Thou hast cast us out H. Purcell O God, Whose nature A. Gray and *S. S. Wesley, each
Cast me not away		S. S. Wesley		O God, Whose nature A. Gray and 'S. S. Wesley, each 1
*Cast thy burden upon the Lord		Mendelssohn		O God, Thou hast cast us out A. Gray and *S. S. Wesley, each O have mercy H. Leslie
*Come, and let us return (Two-part.	Anthem)	G. A. Macfarren	2d.	O nearken I nou A. Sunivan
*Come, and let us return	. Goss and	W. Jackson, each	3d.	O Jesu! Victim blest J. B. Powell
		Palestrina	Ind.	O Lamb of God J. Barnby O Lamb of God G. E. Lake
*Come now, and let us reason togeth	er	R. Briant	12d.	O Lamb of God G. E. Lake
Come now, let us reason together	** **	H. W. Wareing	4d.	*O Lord, correct me J. Coward :
*Come unto Him	** **	Ch. Gounod	2d.	O Lord, give ear
Come unto Him		Henry Leslie	3d.	O Lord God, Thou strength J. Goss 1
Come unto Me	h, Couldrey	, and Elvey, each H. Hiles	3d.	O Lord, look down J. Battishill
Come unto Me M. K		H. Hiles	2d.	O Lord, my God C. Malan and S. S. Wesley, each i
Come unto Me M. K	ngston and	I. S. Smith, each	rad.	O Lord, my God C. Lee Williams a
*Come, ye sin-defiled and weary		J. Stainer W. Crotch	2d.	O Lord, rebuke me not H. Lahee
*Comfort, O Lord		W. Crotch	ıåd.	O most merciful I. W. Elliott ii
Comfort the soul of Thy servant (A.	T.T.B.)	John E. West	4d.	O saving Victim W. A. C. Cruickshank and Rossini, each so saving Victim Ch. Gound a saving Victim J. Stainer s
Create in me a clean heart		Percy J. Fry G. J. Elvey H. J. King	3d.	*O saving Victim Ch. Gounod
Daughters of Jerusalem		G. I. Elvey	ıld.	*O saving Victim J. Stainer a
Daughters of Jerusalem Daughters of Jerusalem		H. I. King	3d.	O saving Victim B. Tours and *F. Koenig, each i
Enter not into judgment	** **	T. Attwood	ıdd.	*O Saviour of the world J. Goss a
Flan from avil		W. J. Clarke	3d.	*O Saviour of the world Harold Moore
Flee from evil For our offences		Mendelssohn	rid.	O Saviour of the world (A.T.T.B.) J. V. Roberts a
Forsake me not, O Lord, my God		Goss	4d.	Out of the deep F. E. Gladstone and G. C. Martin, each a
Give ear, O Lord	** **	C. Oberthür	ıåd.	
ACing and O Lord		T. M. Pattison		Out of the deep H. W. Davies and J. Naylor, each a
*Give ear, O Lord Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel		A. Whiting	2d. 3d.	Out of the deep H. W. Davies and J. Naylor, each a *O ye that love the Lord S. Coleridge-Taylor i
Give ear, O Snepherd of Israel	** **			O ye that love the Lord . F. A. W. Docker and G. J. Elvey, each
Give ear unto my prayer	** **	J. Arcadelt	ıd.	O ye that love the Lord J. W. Elliott i
God's Peace is peace eternal	922	Grieg	3d.	
"God so loved the world Goss	Kingston,	and Stainer, each	12d.	O ye that love the Lord H. W. Wareing a
*God so loved the world Harold		. V. Roberts, ea.	3d.	Ponder my words, O Lord A. D. Culley in Put me not to rebuke, O Lord W. Croft de
Grant, we beseech Thee		J. Booth	ıd.	Put me not to rebuke, O Lord W. Croft a
Grant, we beseech Thee		M. Elvey	2d.	*Remember not, Lord H. Purcell n
Grant, we beseech Thee		J. V. Roberts	3d.	*Remember now thy Creator C. Steggall
Have mercy upon me, O God	00 00	J. Goss	4d.	Remember, O Lord T. A. Walmisley
Have mercy upon me, O God Have mercy upon me Barnby, M Have mercy upon me	** **	J. Barnby	2d.	*Rend your heart J. B. Calkin in Rend your heart J. Clippingdale in
Have mercy upon me Barnby, M	inshall, Pye	, and Shaw, each	3d.	Rend your heart J. Clippingdale 3
Have mercy upon me		J. White	ıd.	Rend your heart (Turn ye even to Me) A. E. Godfrey
*Hear me when I call	** **	King Hall	rid.	Save me, O God C. S. Jekyll a
Hear me when I call (A.T.T.B.)		T. Distin	2d.	*Seek ye the Lord C. Bradley w
"Hear my prayer		J. Kent	3d.	Seek ve the Lord H. Kinsey and 'I. V. Roberts, en. E.
"Mear my prayer "Mene	delssohn and	C. Stroud, each	4d.	Show me Thy ways J. V. Roberts 34
Hear my prayer		Winter	ıid.	Spare us, Lord, most holy E. A. Sydenham
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Hear, O Thou Shepherd J. Clarke-W	hitfeld & T.	A. Walmisley, ea.	4d.	Teach me Thy way Spohr and W. H. Gladstone, each is
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		M Mountmann		*The Lead is nigh W H Cummings to
Hear us, O Saviour	** **		rad.	THE LOTE IS HIGH
Hear us, O Saviour	** **	F. Hiller	rid.	"The path of the just J. V. Roberts in
He in tears that soweth		F. Hiller K. I. Pye	11d. 11d.	Spare us, Lord, most holy "Teach me, O Lord T. Attwood and B. Rogers, each is Teach me, O Lord Spohr and W. H. Gladstone, each is The Lord is full of compassion F. E. Gladstone is The Lord is nigh W. H. Cumming is The path of the just J. V. Roberts is There is a green hill far away Ch. Gound & Ch. Gound
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He in tears that soweth Hide not Thy Face How long wilt Thou Hymn of Peace cane not to call the righteous If any man sin Incline Thine ear		F. Hiller K. J. Pye Oliver King W. H. Callcott C. Vincent H. Hiles Himmel	2d. 2d. 1 d. 3d. 1 d.	"There is a green hill far away Lord H. Somenst it The Reproaches (from the "Redemption") Ch. Gounod is The Reproaches Healey Willan and J. B. Dykes, es. it The sacrifice of God H. W. Wareing it The story of the Cross Stainer, Somervell, Foster, & Roberts, es. is
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He in tears that soweth Hide not Thy Face How long wilt Thou Hymn of Peace cane not to call the righteous If any man sin Incline Thine ear		F. Hiller K. J. Pye Oliver King W. H. Callcott C. Vincent H. Hiles Himmel J. Weldon, each B. Tours	2d. 2d. 1dd. 3d. 1dd. 1dd. 3d. 3d.	"There is a green hill far away Lord H. Somenst it There is a green hill far away Lord H. Somenst it The Reproaches (To the William and J. B. Dykes, ea. § The sacrifice of God H. W. Wareing it The sacrifices of God H. Blar it The Story of the Cross Stainer, Somervell, Foster, & Roberts, ea. § The Story of the Cross Stainer, Somervell, Foster, & Roberts, ea. §
He in tears that soweth Hide not Thy Face How long wilt Thou Hymn of Peace Came not to call the righteous If any man sin Incline Thine ear In Thee, O Lord Sis it nothing to you? (S.A.T.B.)		F. Hiller K. J. Pye Oliver King W. H. Callcott C. Vincent H. Hiles Himmel J. Weldon, each B. Tours M. B. Foster	2d. 2d. 1 d. 3d. 1 d. 1 d. 3d. 3d. 3d.	"There is a green hill far away Lord H. Somenst it The Reproaches (from the "Redemption") Ch. Gound it The Reproaches Healey Willan and J. B. Dykes, ea. it The sacrifices of God H. W. Wareing it The sacrifices of God H. Blar it The Story of the Cross Stainer, Somervell, Foster, & Roberts, ea. it The Story of the Cross H. Elliot Butto it Think not that they are blest alone F. Brandeis it Thou dids't turn Thy force T. Attwood it
He in tears that soweth Hide not Thy Face How long wilt Thou Hymn of Peace came not to call the righteous If any man sin Incline Thine ear In Thee, O Lord In Thee, O Lord Is it nothing to you? (s.A.T.B.).		F. Hiller K. J. Pye Oliver King W. H. Callcott C. Vincent H. Hiles Himmel J. Weldon, each B. Tours M. B. Foster	2d. 11d. 3d. 11d. 12d. 3d. 3d. 3d. 3d.	"There is a green hill far away Lord H. Somenst in The Reproaches (from the "Redemption") Ch. Gounod is The Reproaches Healey Willam and J. B. Dykes, ea. is "The sacrifices of God H. W. Wareing in The sacrifices of God H. W. Wareing in The Story of the Cross Stainer, Somervell, Foster, & Roberts, ea. in The Story of the Cross H. Elliot Button in Think not that they are blest alone F. Brandes in Thou didst turn Thy face That Wood in Through reace to light H. Roberts The Story of the Cross The Story of the Cross The Story of the Cross H. Elliot Button Think not that they are blest alone The Roberts The Story of the Cross T
He in tears that soweth Hide not Thy Face How long wilt Thou *Hymn of Peace *I came not to call the righteous If any man sin *Incline Thine ear In Thee, O Lord *S. Coleridge* Is it nothing to you? (S.A.T.B.). *Is it nothing to you? (for S.A.). I will arise	Taylor and	F. Hiller K. J. Pye Oliver King W. H. Callcott C. Vincent H. Hiles Himmel J. Weldon, each B. Tours M. B. Foster M. B. Foster C. Wood	2d. 11d. 3d. 11d. 3d. 3d. 3d. 3d. 3d.	"There is a green hill far away Lord H. Somenst in The Reproaches (from the "Redemption") Ch. Gounod is The Reproaches Healey Willam and J. B. Dykes, ea. is "The sacrifices of God H. W. Wareing in The sacrifices of God H. W. Wareing in The Story of the Cross Stainer, Somervell, Foster, & Roberts, ea. in The Story of the Cross H. Elliot Button in Think not that they are blest alone F. Brandes in Thou didst turn Thy face That Wood in Through reace to light H. Roberts The Story of the Cross The Story of the Cross The Story of the Cross H. Elliot Button Think not that they are blest alone The Roberts The Story of the Cross T
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This Supplement is part also of the February issue of THE SCHOOL MUSIC REVIEW, and can be obtained with the Review, price 14d.

The

Competition Sestival Record

No. 70

CHORAL TECHNIQUE.

At the meeting of the Musical Association held on hunary 19, Dr. W. G. McNaught read a paper on Choral Technique.' At the outset he referred to the inculty of dealing with a practical subject without being able to give illustrations, for which under the reumstances it was not possible to arrange. would attempt only a general survey of the conditions of choral technique and its relation to the still more important matter of interpretation. He was not providing a text-book. All who desired instruction hould consult Dr. Henry Coward's unique work on the subject. That work was the most remarkable and chaustive contribution to the study of choral training hat had appeared in any language. After tracing briefly the state of choral music in the first half of the oth century, he thus summarized the music of the neriod :

Excluding big choral works of the oratorio type, in a survey of miniature musical forms that obtained favour we find that they are distinguished by tonal and rhythmic simplicity, and a grong melodic appeal. But they had one other characteristic feature in that the idiom in which they were cast as born of an intimate experience of the human voice. Examine Webbe's - When winds breathe soft,' or his steadid 'Thy voice, O Harmony,' and it is seen that all he effects that appeal to the eye as being good, also appeal to the ear, because all the notes are pitched precisely in the right place for the effect designed. Take that gem of purest of sterner, Horsley's 'By Celia's arbour' (A.T.T.B.), and compare its linked sweetness long drawn out with an opto-date modern part-song by some of our young bloods, the it must be feared think in terms of the pianoforte of perhaps of the orchestra when they are writing for wicks, and apparently in terms of the Zoological Gardens then they write for the orchestra.

Two important influences were the provision of deap music by Vincent Novello and the propaganda of John Hullah, who persuaded the nation that everyone rould sing if they only tried. Then came the Tonic 50/4 movement under John Curwen, which enabled milions to understand the elements of music. An important advance was made in the 'fifties by the establishment of Mr. Henry Leslie's famous choir. A new standard of choral execution was established, and its achievements affected composition:

The Victorian part-song was born of the needs of this chair. Nearly every contemporary British musician of sanding wrote part-songs for its concerts. To-day we are ut to look down upon the products of this period, and to wader that they should have excited so much interest and have occupied the resources of the finest choir in the country. The subject of these compositions was generally about the saons—Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter—Violets, ballows flying home, Love songs, and wily inducements to babies to slumber. Their apotheosis was lamby's 'Sweet and low' or Samuel Reay's 'Dawn of by.' Henry Smart was a fertile contributor, and Hatton was scarcely less popular. But dainty and pretty as are may of these compositions they do not achieve the senity and breadth found in the compositions of Pearsall at the Elizabethan madrigalists that so often appeared in tellie's programmes. The contributions of Mr. Leslie

himself also deserve special mention. Some of them are still in vogue, and one or two, notably 'The Lullaby of life,' are thought worthy the attention of the best choirs.

Then out of the Welsh Eisteddfod, and to a less extent of the festivals of the French Orpheus societies, grew the competition movement in England. So far back as 1862 we hear of competition successes. A choir under Mr. Joseph Proudman was successful at the 1867 Paris Exhibition, and in 1873 and 1874 national music competitions were held at the Crystal Palace. Then came Stratford (East London), and later Miss Wakefield with her socio-musical propaganda. But these local schemes were not conceived with a view to the cultivation of technique as to spread the practice of music amongst the whole community. The lecturer went on to say:

But clearly it was out of this movement that the greater competitions grew, and later in the 19th century choral technique began to make extraordinary advances. The attraction of a performance in a special arena before rivals for fame and the possibilities of a wreath of victory stimulated the closest study and turned rehearsal rooms into scientific workshops. The fact that there were in the country a great number of amateur and professional conductors who were born choir-trainers now became manifest. At the chief competition centres such as Morecambe and Blackpool the performances of choirs reached a standard of technique and interpretation hitherto undreamt of in this These performances were heard by the best of our native musicians, and evidently they were soon thinking of new potentialities of choral effect, and were acquiring an ominous faith in the boundless skill of choralists to deal with technical difficulties that included the most formidable barbedwire entanglements.

It will be worth while at this stage to inquire as to what natural faculties and acquired skill may be regarded as the tonal equipment of a first-rate choralist. I offer the following rough tabulation:

- A sense of absolute pitch. This is a rare gift. I doubt whether it is of much use to a choral performer.
- (2) A temporary memory of absolute pitch. This is elementary and indispensable. All perception of tonal relations is dependent upon this memory. Without it an interval could not be appreciated. People who do not possess this memory are said to have 'no ear.'
- (3) The memory of Intervals. That is, the relation of the 'distance' (to use the conventional word) of one pitch to another. A small percentage of singers use this method of calculation successfully, but the great majority of readers from the staff notation apply it in a vague, unsystematic way until they have memorised the music.
- (4) Memory of the effect of a scale-degree in its relation to all the other scale-degrees. This is the tonic sol-fa plan. While the tonal relation of a note is clear, or even fairly clear, the singer is independent of interval observation. But he is pulled up when tonal relations become vague, as they do very frequently in modern music.
- (5) An extra sense, difficult to define, which enables some singers to sing securely without their knowing how they do it.

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- (6) The ability to imitate or pick up quickly. All choirtrainers are familiar with the lady candidate who claims to be able to sing at sight provided she may sit next to Miss Blank!
- (7) Lastly, there is memory of the music practised. This is a precious gift probably as valuable as any of the others tabulated. Some good sight-singers seem always singing at sight: they are slow to learn. At the start they are the hares, but the tortoises with retentive memories often catch up.

A good choir is a conglomerate of singers pursuing one or other of these ways and means of getting notes. So far as tonal correctness is concerned the end is attained when all the choir becomes familiar with the music.

I have alluded to the influence that the experience of fine choral technique has upon composers and its by-product of extraordinary difficulties that seem to take little or no heed of the limitations of choralists. When the exasperating tonal difficulties of some modern choral music are overcome by exhausting and depressing rehearsals that tend to destroy every vestige of pleasure on the part of the performer, what is the musical appeal of the most perfect performance? Often it is simply deadly dull. This one can assert while acknowledging that other equally exacting choral music yields the most beautiful and original effects. Only genius, which it is so easy to ape, makes such experiments

In conclusion various points of choral technique were analysed.

TONAL AND RHYTHMIC ATTACK.

First, there is tonal attack. One of the commonest faults of choralists is the habit of approaching high and even middle compass notes by a curve from below. This method of tonal attack is adopted unconsciously, and individuals who have fallen into the habit are generally incredulous as to their being in fault. Some singers who are uncertain of their notes make a circular tour round the pitch, and perhaps never arrive at all at the centre—they sing with a sort of corkscrew effect. In drilling a choir to avoid these faults, care has to be taken to avoid a jerky, semi-sforzando style that is destructive of sostenulo. If singers can sing a given pitch at all, they can by will-power strike that pitch without a curve and without undue accent.

Although vibrato production—the cinematograph voice is not to do with attack, it may very well be considered here. Finely equipped choirs are sometimes ruined owing to some of their members adopting this vicious style. Tone so delivered refuses to blend.

The other branch of attack has to do with rhythm. There are few things more delightful in choral performance than a dainty precision of execution that comes from absolute unity of rhythmic feeling on the part of performers. The ideal admits of no maddening leaders, and, therefore, of no exasperating followers. The four or more parts must beat as one. Inexperienced conductors are apt to think that they have done their duty to attack if they secure unanimity of the start of a phrase. But every rhythmic detail of a phrase must be unified in execution. The insides of phrases are often very faultily smudged, especially when miscellaneous divisions of the pulse occur.

PHRASING.

There are several technical aspects in which the association of words with music may be studied.

First, we have to note that the musical phrase exists, and that often it is the real unit of the musical appeal. Break it up remorselessly, connect some of its fragments with those of another phrase, and the music disappears. In choral training, as in solo singing, the question is eternally arising as to how far, if at all, we are entitled to damage the music in the real or supposed interest of other objects. Clear enunciation and verbal phrasing for sense are separate objects of performance that are sometimes more or less in conflict with the abstract musical phrase. To these we have to add the physical necessity of breathing, with its constant interruption of continuity. Before I deal with these points in detail it may be well to ask you to remember that it is possible for an auditor automatically to piece together the fragments of

a broken musical phrase, just as he can join the broken details of a verbal phrase and realise the import of the words. This is a saving grace. The nice question is bon far we can venture to draw upon these subjective faculties, which are a special task and may easily become a burden to the auditor of vocal music.

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Then as to clear enunciation. It goes without saying that this is a proper object of performance. So far as it concerned with differentiation and unity of vowels, it is easily that the second of the

But the case is different when we consider the consonant those unmusical boundaries of so many English work ofttimes the ugly frame of the word-picture. The problem of the consonant in singing is how to secure clear definition of initials and finals without deteriorating the vowel which is the musical appeal.

A conductor devotes special attention to these consonant explosions, and finds that the vowel has been squeezed death, and that the singing is often a succession of splates. The cult of the final consonant is especially responsible in some absurd effects. Some conductors, and many singers, are at so much obvious pains to make the indicensionant the most prominent feature of a word, that the result is an extra syllable. I remember an amate elecutionist who aped this device of the third-rate tragedin. He was reciting Macaulay's 'Horatius.' He remarked:

Thoser behinder crieder forwarder Ander thoser in fronter crieder backer.

Often have I heard otherwise excellent choral performance defaced by this excess. The mean has to be found between the consonant and duty to the vowel. But here am concerned mainly with the result of over-attention to consonants on the musical phrase. Of course, it is destructive of the music, because it delivers the phrase it tiny instalments and draws too heavily upon that piccing faculty of the auditor I have already described.

The necessity of breathing-places has also to be considered in its dual relation to the verbal phrasing and the music phrasing. I refrain from a discussion of physical methodic inspiration and control of breath. If I attempted such dangerous proceeding, I should have to be strong entrenched. I concern myself only with the choice of breathing-places. As a rule, it is worth while for the chiramer to fix the places. But not infrequently in sostoway passages, it is better to leave the matter to the unit convenience of singers, because the result may be a perfect continuity to the auditor. Besides, we have to consider the personal factor. The adipose tissue of a portly contralibit smart evening dress may hinder internal expansion, and conscientious struggles may have unfortunate platform resistently be governed exclusively by a consideration of the words or of the music. The highest art is of course to keep both objectives in view. In this task we are greatly assembly the possibility of short intakes of breath, that by practice hardly perceptibly interfere with continuity.

RELATION OF VERBAL AND MUSICAL PHRASING.

I now come to what is the most important consideration in this matter of the relation of verbal and musical phrasi-Of course, it may be said that it is the business of the composer to fit his music to the words exactly and to is no dubious task to his interpreters. But while some must born of complete intimacy with the words, there are numerous instances where the flights of a composer's fancy lead him indulge in charming musical effects that we should not a to sacrifice because of an exaggerated idea of the necess Shall we, the of exact conformity of words and music. say that in choral music at least we need not invariable worship verbal sense so superstitiously as to involve deliberate sacrifice of the musical idea? After all it is composer's affair, and if it does not work well the puriment of failure fits the crime. The choir is only The choir is only the Pickford that collects from the producer and distributes the consumer. If the manufacture has imperfections, it so be pleaded that it is not the business of the distributor attempt to put things right. But he may be held responsible for damages en route. Again, we have to keep in

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and make use of the capacity of the auditor to piece the sessed the words together, and also, it may be added, his still more pronounced faculty of absorbing only the music and not bothering about the words. I lay down no inallible rules. In every case the expert trainer should consider the situation and decide accordingly.

TECHNIQUE FOR ITS OWN SAKE.

I now come to the last heading of my synopsis, the exhibition of technique for its own sake, and its subordination in interpretation. In connection with the splendid performance of the finest unaccompanied choral music at the leading competition centres, no other subject has been discussed so fally and publicly, and there has been considerable difference dopinion as to actual facts-that is, as to whether this or that notable performance was simply a remarkable to interpretative insight.

'EXPRESSION' MARKS.

Now as to what are somewhat delusively called expression' marks. These well-known directions are concemed mainly with dynamic contrasts. They grade force ion the softest pp to the loudest ff, and include sforando, one, dim., &c. Others direct style, as dolce, sostenuto, ducate. Examine the application of these signs and words, specially as they are employed in a great deal of recent music, and it is obvious that they are often simply and solely appeals to musical effect, altogether apart from the sense of the words. They interest the ear because they provide pleasurable contrasts, and they hypnotise attention and capture the mind of the auditor for the reception of the mood colour, the real expression of feeling, that may concurrently be exhibited. They are pure effects just as smilar nature. We cannot justly censure their realisation on smill nature. We cannot pastly create the ground that they are mere appeals to effect, inasmuch as they are asked for by the composer and are perhaps a fature of his composition. It is the real danger of their caggeration that has to be guarded against. A sense of apportion has to be cultivated. No one can say how loud a into or how soft a piano should be; how much the sound should be increased in a crescendo or diminished in a diminuendo. Sforzandos are often greatly overdone, and what was meant for a mild, billowy swell is made into a franctic and strenuous noise. Nothing by way of dynamics tests the skill and control of the conductor more than his treatment of expansions. If there is no escape from this sort of technique of relative tonal force, we must at least demand that it is used with judgment and discretion.

Whatever its utility as a musical appeal it falls dead short of the interpretation of mood, the manifestation of which is an elusive and mysterious ingredient that steals into the mice and plumbs depths of the soul of the listener and at times makes him hold his breath in awe.

The power to interpret a moody piece is the highest achievement of choral performance. It is as though the disembodied spirit of the composer were reincarnated in the conductor and his choir. Such are the possibilities of choral performance as it appears to-day.

Modern composers have provided an extensive repertory of this type of tone-poetry in the form of unaccompanied the state of foreign musicians.

THE FUTURE.

What is before us by way of evolution of new idioms applied to choral compositions one almost fears to conjecture. Choral music cannot escape the furnace in which all musical material is burning. But whatever the outcome, it will live or die just as it recognizes or fails to recognize the natural limitations of human voices and the power of average folk to conceive tonal relations.

In the discussion that followed, Dr. Cummings (who was in the chair) referred to the neglect of Bishop's choral music. Dr. Aitkin made some nteresting observations on enunciation, and Dr. R. R. Terry alluded to the influence exerted on choral songs selected for solo singers are equally technique by the idiom or Elgar's 'Dream of Gerontius' have not space for their titles this month.

and Bantock's works, and he said that modern editions of old works were too much edited by men lacking experience. Mr. Venables spoke of the discouragement to choralists arising from the difficulties of tests

A full report of the paper and the discussion will appear in the Proceedings of the Musical Association.

Not long ago we heard from Dr. A. S. Vegt (the conductor of the famous Mendelssohn Choir at Toronto) that he had been adjudicating at Competition Festivals at Alberta and Saskatchewan. He said that everywhere he found a determination on the part of competing conductors to cultivate the fundamental principles in choral-tone technique and expressiveness in interpretation which had worked such wonders in the British Isles. Dr. Vogt's Choir had arranged for a visit to this country and the Continent this spring, but all the arrangements had necessarily to be abandoned when the War broke out.

THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD, ABERYSTWYTH.

August 30 to September 4, 1915.

We have before us the syllabus issued for this great event. It will be recalled that the 1914 Eisteddfod was to have been held at Bangor, but it was decided to abandon it owing to the breaking out of the War. The tests in the principal classes in the Aberystwyth syllabus are as follows:

CHIEF CHORAL, MIXED-VOICE.

(Open to all comers. 120 to 180 voices.)

Prizes, £10 and £45.

'Cold winter, villain that thou art' (unaccompanied) (Debussy).

'Storm in nature,' chorus from 'The storm' (David Jenkins).

'Sanctus' from Bach's 'Mass in B minor.' (To be sung in Latin.)

MALE-VOICE.

(Open to all comers. 50 to 80 voices.)

'Dance of the Gnomes' (MacDowell).

The Druids' (Joseph Parry).

'The phantom host' (Hegar).

SECOND CHORAL, MIXED VOICES.

(Open to all comers. 50 to 80 voices.)

' Blossoms, born of teeming springtime ' (Dvorák).

'Autumn woodland' (D. Emlyn Evans).

FEMALE VOICES (Open).—30 to 45 voices.

'Funeral Song' (Chausson).
'The Ballad of Sir Humphrey Gilbert' (Wolstenholme).

'The nightingale's voice' (D. Emlyn Evans).

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS (Open).-40 to 50 voices.

'She walks in beauty' (Julius Harrison).
'The Heavenly Dove' (Tom Price).

VILLAGE CHOIRS. (25 to 35 voices.)

'Wrong not, sweet Empress' (Hubert Parry).

'Benedictus' (Robert Bryan).

It will be observed that the tests are of a high class, and draw largely upon modern music. songs selected for solo singers are equally good. We

COMING COMPETITIONS

(WITH SECRETARIES' NAMES).

February 23, 24, 25.—Oaklands Congregational Church, Shepherd's Bush. Solo singing all voices, and pianoforte playing; no choral classes. Mr. A. E. Bush, 129, Coldershaw Road, West Ealing, London, W. Entries close February 6.

March.—Haughton and District (Staffordshire). Eleven classes, village choirs and school choirs. Two open classes are for choirs of mixed voices, another for male voices. No solos or instrumental classes. Miss B. E. Royds, Haughton, near Stafford.

March 20.—Sheffield. Under the auspices of the Clarion Vocal Union. The syllabus has not reached us.

April 16, 17.—Belfast. The syllabus of this Festival has just been issued. Forty-three classes are provided for. They include choirs of all kinds and several for instruments. The Northern Whig, in backing up the event, says, 'Surely the music-lovers of Belfast will see that the movement, which has now been firmly established in our midst as an annual event, will not suffer on this occasion. The times are exceptional, but there is no reason why we should hang our harps upon the willows.' We trust the courage of the committee will be justified by a full response. Miss L. Murphy, B.A., Churchill, Craigavad, Belfast.

May I.—Glasgow. Originally it was intended to enlarge the scope of this already important event. But this year it has been deemed expedient not to attempt to do more than encourage the schools, female-voice choirs, vocal quartets, and adult solo singers (six classes). The following statement as to the tests is made in the syllabus: 'The committee—although not actuated by any Chauvinistic spirit—has thought the present an appropriate time to exploit more fully than heretofore the creative resources of British musicianship. The result is an "all-British" syllabus of outstanding interest.' We hope to find space in our next issue for this patriotic list of tests. Mr. Hugh S. Roberton, 115, Renfield Street, Glasgow.

May 5, 6.—Tewkesbury. The first competition was held here in March, 1914, and was a great success. This year's scheme, which was drafted before the War, is to be persevered with as far as it is found possible. Over a thousand men in the neighbourhood have joined the Army. Eighteen classes are enumerated in the syllabus. Choirs of all kinds, solos for all voices, pianoforte and violin playing and string quartets are provided for. Mrs. Purcell Wilson, Avonbank, Tewkesbury.

May 10 to 15.—'Feis Ceoil' Irish Musical Festival, Dublin. The syllabus of this leading event ignores all reference to the effects of the War, and the programme is as elaborate as ever. Sixty-four classes, covering almost every department of musical activity, are enumerated. The selection of tests must have been a heavy task. No fewer than 114 pieces are scheduled. The syllabus is an interesting record of the event since its establishment in 1897. The budget of last year's Festival shows a turnover of £772 35. 10d. the loss for that year being £30 35. 10d. Miss Edith Mortier, 37, Molesworth Street, Dublin.

May 20, 21. The sixth Cornwall Competition. To be held at Wadebridge (a new centre). This Festival has been promoted by Lady Mary Trefusis. Sixteen classes, mostly for school choirs. No adult mixed-voiced choirs on this occasion, tut choirs of women's voices are provided for. Pianoforte, violin, viola, and violoncello are also included. The Lady Mary Trefusis, Porthgwidden, Devoran, Cornwall.

People's Palace, London, E. This Festival is to be held. The syllabus has not reached us.

The above are in addition to Festivals announced in recent issues of the COMPETITION FESTIVAL RECORD:

Macclesfield.
Coleraine (Ireland).
Stratford (London, E.).
South-West London.
Ilkley (Wharfedale).
West Sussex (Chichester).

Hastings.
Morecambe.
London Working Girls' Federation of Girls' Clubs.
Manchester and District.

A competition of some importance, to be held at P_{UI} Elizabeth, South Africa, had been designed, but the W_{ar} had forced postponement.

COLWYN BAY.-January 1.

Among the Eisteddfodau held in the Principality during the Christmas holidays, one of the most successful was the of Colwyn Bay on New Year's Day. As usual musical and non-musical events shared the attention. The adjudicate in the former was Mr. W. T. Evans, who awarded prizes follows: Children's solo, Margaret S. Griffiths and Samel V. Thompson (divided); pianoforte solo, Miss H. M. Collins; soprano solo, Miss G. Williams; tenor solo, Mr. W. R. Evans; baritone solo, Mr. E. Jenkin Roberts he junior choral class Penmachno Choir (Mr. E. Roberts were the winners. Dr. J. Parry's 'Monks' war march was the test in the male-voice choral competition. Trefin (Mr. T. R. Williams) proved superior to Colwyn (Mr. Edward Davies).

MIDDLESBROUGH.-January 1.

The thirty-fourth annual Cleveland and Durham Eisteddiol was held in the Town Hall, Middlesbrough, on New Yeis Day. The committee boldly decided not to suspend the meeting on account of the War, though reducing the proceedings from four meetings to two, held in the afternoon and evening. It is a pleasure to record the success of the gathering both in the dimensions of the audience and in the number of competitors. There was the usual round of events, but the special feature of this year's programme was the introduction of a String Quartet class. There was only one entry, but the competitors played so well and the audience followed the performance with such interest that all hands the wish was expressed that the committee should persevere with the competition until it produced substantial results. The adjudicators were Mr. E. T. Davies (who came in place of the late Mr. Harry Evans), and Mr. T. J. Hoggett.

The following awards were made in the solo classes:

Boys (10 entries).—J. Birkbeck. Girls (24 entries).—Irene Norton. Soprano (15 entries).—Miss Phillips. Contralto (14 entries).—Miss Dora Gledhill. Tenor (15 entries).—Mr. Lambert Harvey.

Baritone and Bass (16 entries).—Mr. H. R. Jones. Violin (15 entries).—Mr. A. Thompson. Pianoforte (30 entries).—Miss Dora Ward.

A class for Vocal Trios (s.A.T.) drew eight entries, of whom the Kensington Trio proved the prizewinners.

The following were the tests, entries, and results in the choral classes:

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS.

Test: 'Springtime birds' (Joan Trevalsa).

Marton Road School Senior Choir (Mrs. J. Birch) (one entry).

LADIES' CHOIRS.

Test: 'Sound sleep' (Vaughan Williams).

Middlesbrough Madrigal Society (Mr. A. Gordon Hood).

ist. Middlesbrough Co-operative (Mr. Gavin Kay). York Ladies Musical Union (Mr. C. F. Musgrove).

MALE-VOICE CHOIRS.

Tests: 'Viking song' (Julius Harrison).
'The sailor's return' (Percy Fletcher).
Eston and Normanby (Mr. Gavin Kay).
(Three entries, one choir sang.)

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	Benedicite,	omnia	opera	1.			
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427.	BENNETT, GEORGE J., in D		***		***	***	3d.
101.			***	**		***	3d.
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423.	Н. В. С	***	***		***		ıjd.
196.	HERVEY, F. A. J., in A flat		***	***		***	råd.
103.	HUGHES, W		***	***	***	***	ıld.
422.	ILIFFE, F. (No. 1)	***	***	***		***	råd.
429.	LEMARE, E. H., in E flat		***	***	***	***	3d.
426.	LLOYD, C. H., in E flat				***	***	2d.
96.	MARTIN, GEORGE C., in F			***	***	***	4d.
98.	MARTIN, GEORGE C., in G		***	***	***		4d.
too.	MARTIN, GEORGE C., in E flat	***	***	***	***	***	4d.
210.	MATTHEWS, T. R., in E flat	***	***				rid.
421.	MILLER, C. E. (No. 2. Chant for	m)	***	***	***	***	2d.
225.	PETTMAN, EDGAR (No. 1, in C; 1	Vo. 2, in	E flat)	***	***	***	2d.
232.	PETTMAN, EDGAR, in E flat	***	***	***	***		ıdd.
157.	ROBERTS, J. V., in B flat	***	***		***	***	4d.
74-	SMITH, BOYTON, in A flat	***	***	***		***	13d.
420.	SMITH, C. W. (Set to music in fiv	e parts)	***	***	- 0.0	***	6d.
301.	STAINER and BLAXLAND (Chant f	orm)	***	***	***		1 d
195.	STAINER, J., in D			***		***	ıd.
424.	STAINER, WINN, and WALKER		***	***	***	***	råd.
94-	TURLE, HAYES, and BRIDGE, in	Α	***	***		***	råd.
199.	WEST, J. E., in C	***	***	***	***		ıid.
85.	WOOD, W. G., in D		***	***			ıłd.
387.	WRIGLEY, G. F. (Quadruple Char	it)	***	***	***	***	ıłd.

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XUM

Girls' Clubs.

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539.	Great God, Who mad	lest all (Ten	nperan	ce)	***			H. S. Irons	b rd
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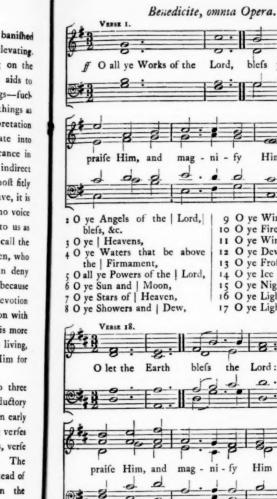
In many Churches it is cultomary to fing "Benedicite" on those mornings when the First Chapter of Genesis, or the Third Chapter of Daniel is appointed to be read. The tramers of the Prayer Book of 1549 ordered it to be used in Lent; but it seems doubtful whether this was not (so to speak) a ritual error, due only to the fact that as "Te Deum" had been, in the old use, omitted in Advent, between Septuagefima and Easter, and on all week days out of Paschal time, the framers of the new Offices, or rather the revifers of the old ones, thought they must substitute something for "Te Deum" during Lent. There is no real authority for using "Benedicite" specially in penitential seasons. The Roman and old English use was to make it a specially festal Canticle; it was the Canticle of Sunday Lauds, "Te Deum" belonging to Sunday Matins In the Benedictine use it was the Sunday Canticle. In the old use made by S. Cæsarius of Arles, it was sung in Sunday Matins. In the old Spanish Church it was sung at Mass, according to a Council of Toledo in the seventh century; and it is still part of the Roman Thanksgiving after Mass.

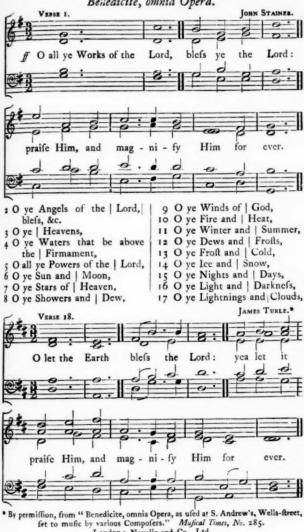
There are persons who regard this noble hymn as unfit for devotional use in Church. This feeling probably arises from accepting its words literally. * "But such a gross realisation of the hymn misses its purpose altogether. . . . A literal interpretation given to the 'Benedicite' clothes it with inconsistency, suggests an Æsopian fable rather than a Christian hymn, and tends to check rather than

^{*} From "Benedicite, or The Song of the Three Children; being Illustrations of the Power, Beneficence, and Design manifested by the Creator in His Works." By G. Chaplin Child, M.D. London: John Murray, Albemarle Street.

promote devotion. Let every shade of such a meaning be banished from the mind, and exchanged for another more true and elevating. It is only by the thoughts suggested to us in pondering on the wonderful perfections of animals that they can ferve as aids to adoration; and it is in the same sense only that dead things-such as ftars, the fea, or the wind-can be affociated with living things as promoting with equal fitness the same end. If this interpretation be not realifed, the words of the 'Benedicite' degenerate into extravagance, and are stripped of all their beautiful fignificance in the minds of thoughtful men. Invested with the same indirect meaning, the names of Ananias, Azarias, and Misael, are most fitly introduced among the invocations of the hymn. They have, it is true, long paffed from the scene of their trials; but though no voice of praise may rise from the grave, their memories remain to us as fymbols of God's omnipotence. In thinking of them we recall the example of men who trufted in the Lord and were not forfaken, who flood forth ready to brave the most cruel death rather than deny their faith, and whom no tyrant could either terrify or hurt, because they were upheld by God's protection. Is there no aid to devotion in fuch examples, or in the thoughts that rife up in affociation with fuch names? On the contrary, no invocation in the hymn is more profitable or suggestive. Thus, by their trusting faith when living, they continue, even though dead, to praise and magnify Him for ever."

It has been suggested that "Benedicite" falls naturally into three divisions: the first seventeen verses (verse 1 being introductory only) relating to the natural kingdom, in so far as it is, or in early days was thought to be, extra-terrestrial; the nine succeeding verses belonging to the terrestrial creation only; the remaining verses, verse 27 to the end, referring to the spiritual kingdom—the Church. The change of construction at verses 18 and 27—"Benedicat" instead of "Benedicite"—may seem to savour this suggestion, and in the following arrangement an attempt has been made to illustrate it musically by a change of chant at these verses.

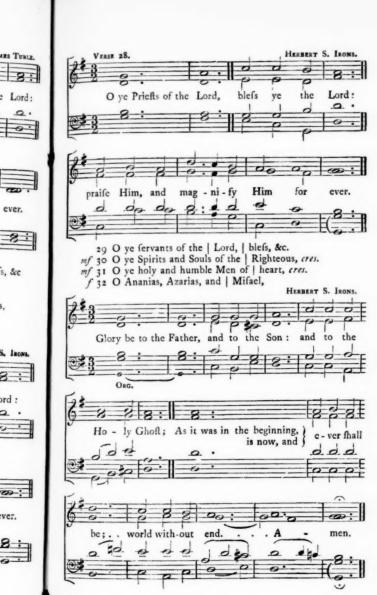




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NOVELLO'S VESPER HYMNS AND AMENS

VESPER HYMNS.

AnonSilently, softly falleth the night (on Card)	***	***	FEY.	10
ASHTON, A. T. LEE Lord, keep us safe this night (on Card)	0 = 0		B flat	
BEETHOVEN (Adapted from) Lord, keep us safe this night. Tw	o setti	ngs		
(on Card)	***		G	
CRUICKSHANK, W. A. C Saviour, when the day is ending (on Card)	***	***	E flat	
EARNSHAW, R. H Another sweet Sabbath is past (on Card)		***	G	1
HOLLINS, A The Lord bless you and keep you (on Card)	***		E flat	1
MATTHEWS, H. ALord, keep us safe this night (on Card)		***	D	1
SCOTT, FGrant us, Thy peace O Lord (on Card)	***	***	E flat	
STEANE, B Lord, keep us safe this night (on Card). (Sol-fa, 13d.)	***	***	F	1
STORR, A O Light everlasting (on Card)	494		C	1
SULLIVAN, A Calm be our rest to-night (on Carl)	***		A flat	
SULLIVAN, A Lord, keep us safe this night. (Two Settings, with				
Amen.) (Sol-fa, 1d.)	***		F	1
VINOOE, A. LLord, keep us safe this night (on Card)	***	***	F	1

AMENS.

Towns I III Co. City Co. T. D. D. V. C. D.				
ELLIOTT, J. W.—Sevenfold Amen (S.A.T.B.B.) (on Card)	000	644	***	D
GIBBONS, ORLANDO.—Threefold Amen (S.A.A.T.B.) (on Card).	(Sol-	fa, 1d.)	***	D
GIBBONS, ORLANDO.—Sixfold Amen (S. A.T.B.) (on Card)	***	***	***	D
GODFREY, A. E.—Sevenfold Amen (on Card)	888	894	577	G
GOUNDD, CH Threefold Amen (on Card)	***	***	***	E flat
LEMARE, E. HThreefold Amen (on Card)	***	***	***	G
LEMARE, E. H Threefold Amen (Original Key). (See P.C.B.	135)	***	***	G flat
LEMARE, E. H Sixfold Amen (T.T.B.B.) (on Card)	***	***		G flat
PAGE, A.— Sevenfold Amen, No. 1. (on Card)	***		***	A D
SOMERVELL, A Fourfold Amen (on Card)	***	***	***	F
STAINER, JFourfold Amen (on Card)	***	***		G
STAINER, J Sevenfold Amen Dresden Amen (Arr. by J. S.) (on Card). (So	l-fa, 1	d.)	***	A A
STAINER, J. (Arr.) Sevenfold Amen (A.T.T.B.) (on Card)	***	***	***	E flat
STAINER, J. (Arr.) Sevenfold Amen (S.S.S.) (on Card)	***	***	***	B flat
SULLIVAN, A. (Arr.)-Sevenfold Amen. (Sol-fa, id.)	***	***	***	F
WAGNER, R. (Arr.),-Dresden (Twofold) Amen (on Card)	***	***		A flat
WAGNER, R. (Arr.) Dresden (Twofold) Amen (A.T.T.B.) (on C	ard)		***	E flat
WESLEY, S. S. (Arr.)Fourfold Amen (on Card)	***	***		D
WEST, JOHN EThreefold Amen (on Card)	0+0	***		G
(All the above may be sung unaccon	npani	ed).		

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The Musical Times.]

[March 1, 1915

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